(Illustrated up-to-date.)

HAND BOOK

TO



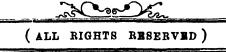
BY

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School Matheran.





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Khan Bahadur

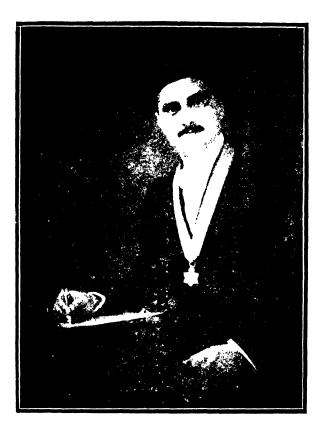
V. P. BHILADWALLA

TO

AS AN HUMBLE TRIBUTE

TO

His innumerable virtues, business tact, Generosity and Readiness to help the helpless.



Khan Bahadur Y. P.MIIMMY MALIA.



INTRODUCTION.

The author of this hand-book requests me to introduce it to the public, and I do so with great pleasure. I have myself gone over most of the proof sheets and have given the author some advice and information which he has embodied in his book.

The matter is very well arranged and great pains have been taken to make the book as complete and up-to-date as possible. very important information to visitors such as "Timings and fares" of the railway, rickshaw fares, cost of living, distances between places of interest, directory of bungalows, full and interesting description of all the view-points, a five days diary &c, is included in the book. In short the whole book is interesting from the beginning to the end, and it, I have no doubt, does full justice to this pretty little hill station and brings it prominently before the public. The Map, with the contrivance of easily finding out bungalows, important places, view-points &c. is a very useful addition to the book. And with all this the price is very moderate. I heartily wish the book a complete success.

Matheran | lst July 1924 |

B. B. Paymaster, Lt. Col. 1. M. s. Superintendent Matheran.

PREFACE.

The first chapter of this book contains most of what I desire to say by way of a preface. Here I have only to do the pleasent duty of expressing my obligations. The older books on Matheran, some old numbers of "Matheran-jottings", the Colaba Gazetteer, the small book published many years back by Mr. H. N. Lord, the life of Nana Shankershet, and especially Mrs. Oliver's Guide have been of immense use to me. I am indebted to all of them. I must specially thank our popular Superintendent Lt. Col. B. B. Paymaster, I. w. s. who generously took interest in my humble attempt, made several verv valuable suggestions and also wrote very kindly the introduction for this book. remain grateful to the learned gentleman who clothed my book in stylish English. Were he willing to let me speak out his name, I would have felt it a proud duty to acquaint the reader with it and thank him openly. I must also thank Mr. V. S. Toro, Visual Instructor, Bombay Presidency, whose help proved of great value to me. Mr. A. S. Gokhale of the Vijaya Press Poona and his younger brother Mr. Haribhau

Gokhale bestowed paternal affection on my book and printed it with great care. I have to thank them very heartily.

I am indebted to our local Photographers Messrs. S. H. Lord and D. Japheth and also to Messrs. V. S. Toro and N. Lord for their kind loan of the Various Photographs. And to Mr. S. B. Sahasrabudhe (Litho Works Poona) for preparing the Map of Matheran, contained in this book. I must thank the Manoranjan Press and the Times of India for the fine blocks they prepared.

And I owe many thanks to all who have rendered help in bringing out this book.

There is a Sanskrit saying that "The thoughts of the poor rise only to perish the next moment." This would have been true of my little book too, had it not been for the substantial help rendered to me by Khan Bahadur V. P. Bhiladwalla owner of the Pinto and Savoy hotels and a public spirited gentleman of Matheran. It is beyond my power to thank him sufficiently.

Matheran 1st July 1924 V. B. Dabake, Head Master Municipal School. Matheran.

MARATHI HAND-BOOK

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TO

Matheran

For the benefit of the Marathi speaking Public and specially for the school boys and teachers of the Colaba and Thana Districts, we propose to publish a Marathi Hand-book embodying all the informations contained in this book with the addition of all other matter which will be of Particular value to the Marathi readers. The book will be ready by the coming cold season.

Watch its Publication.

V. B. DABAKE,

HEAD MASTER, MATHERAN.

ILLUSTRATED UP-TO-DATE HAND-BOOK

TO

MATHERAN.

CONTENTS.

		Page.
I A WORD IN CONFIDENCE :-		(1-3)
How the writer came to write this		•••
Previous attempts The necessity	•••	•••
Of an up-to-date Hand-book	•••	•••
II A PEEP IN THE PAST :-		(4-11)
The ancient history		4-6
Mr. Malet. The Maker of Matheran	•••	6
The first five bungalows		8
Lord Elphinstone's regime,	•••	9
And other governors		•••
Further developments and		10-11
The inception of Municipality	•••	•••
III FROM BOMBAY TO MATHERAN :-	- ([12–23]
Old and new routes		12
Neral (The gateway to Matheran)		12
The way, timings and fares for		13-15
the walkers, horses, rickshaws, and I	Munc	hils
The G. I. P. Ry. Sir Adamjee		19
Peerbhoy (father of Matheran railway)		•••
Matheran Railway (how and when it was		21
constructed)		•••
Timings and fares of Railway	•••	23

IV THEY INVITE YOU TO STAY :-	(24-29))
How to seek a shelter and sanitariums	24-2	5
Hotels (Rugby, Metropole, Granville,		
Pinto-savoy, Hopehall, N. Lord's refreshi	ment	
room, clarendon, Railway, Lord)	26-28	3
Royal Hindoo (Chowkhall), Laxmi hindoo	28–29	•
V AS IT IS TO-DAY:	(30-56)
1. Geography of Matheran	30	0
2. Height and temperature	3	l
3. Rainfall and scenery	33-34	4
4. Weather & sanitation	35-38	Š
and opinions of prominent people .		
5. Water supply	38	3
6. Plants and trees	4	4
78 Birds and Beasts	48-49	9
9. Products (10) Horses and cattle	50-5	1
11. Industries (12) Bazar and trade	5	2
13. Cost of living	5	3
14. Rough estimate of a week's trip	5	6
VI AS IT WOULD BE TOMORROW:-	(50-00))
Some of the Improvements		
VII PLACES OF INTEREST :-	(81-82	2)
1. R. K. Market (2) K. M. Library	62-63	
3 B. J. Hospital (4) Charlotte lake	6	8
(39 Page)	•••	
5. E. Gymkhana (6) P. Gymkhana	66-6	7
7. Children's playground	6	8
8. Olympia (race ground) and caves	6	9
Cosmopolitan gymkhana (Page 58)		
9. R. C. Church (10) St. P. Church	7	
11. Shivaji ladder (12) Mosque (92 Page)) 7	3

13. Temple of Ram (14) Temple of Shiv		74-75
15. Pisarnath (16) Parsee resting place	•••	76-7 9
17. Castle hill tower (18) Tour petit tow		
VIII HOW THEY ADMINISTRATE:-		(83-87)
Matheran hill-station Municipality		83-85
Revenue, forest, Police, P. W. D		85
Posts, telegraphs and telephone	•••	86
The Goolaraj singhanee Mlschool	•••	87
IX spots of glory (points):-	(88–104)
A detailed account of about thirty		•••
Points and distances between them	•••	89
Romance of Shivaji ladder	•••	92
X A FIVE DAYS' DIARY :	(10	05-107)
And the table of distances between important places		 107–109)
XI DIRECTORY OF BUNGALOWS:	(1	10–120)
Advertisements	•••	

List of Illustrations.

		Page.
1.	Khan Bahadur V. P. BhiladwallaDedic	ation
2.	Matheran Railway	8
3.	Rickshaws	16
4.	Charlotte Lake	3 8
5. 6. }	Monkey and Simpson Tank	48
7.	Mr. Malet (The father of Matheran)	68
8.	One Tree hill and Shivaji ladder	93
9.	Lion's Head	95
10.	Elephant's Trunk	110

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-Matheran.

Proprietor - N. Lord.

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THE only first class stores in Matheran Patronized by their Excellencies, SIR G. Clarke, Lord and Lady Willingdon, Late Governor of Bombay, during their visit to this charming little hill Station and by all the elite.

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Rickshaws on hire, Bungalows hired for the cold and hot seasons for intending Visitors.

For further in formations apply.

N. Lord.

Illustrated up to date Hand book to MATHERAN.

Ι

A WORD IN CONFIDENCE

My acquaintance with this beautiful Hill-Station began some years back when I was working as a humble teacher at Neral. Then I often used to snatch a leisurely week-end day and climb up the Hill to enjoy the pleasant company of one of my closest friends who enjoyed the privilege of having a home at Matheran. Being an untiling wanderer in the woods, my dependence on my friend's company for visiting the various points, soon became unbearable to me and the desire rose in me to know every nook and corner of the Hill. I was also eager to peep into the history of this lovely Hill, to know how it developed from an uninhabited spot into a fashionable summer resort of the most fashionable circles The residents of Matheran of society. exhibited surprising ignorance whenever in those days I tried to elicit any information from them. On the contrary I could enjoy the fun of being taken for a well informed citizen of the place and required to supply some badly needed information

This led me to enquire if there were any books which could satisfy the curiosity of an inquisitive visitor by authentic and detailed information about Matheran. learnt that a small Gujrathi book-let had been published some years ago, but all my attempts to secure a copy of it proved fruitless. Two other books were available, one by Dr. Smith and another by Mrs. Oliver. But they were voluminous, costly and therefore out of the reach of the common reader; and again being written many years ago, even before the advent of the Matheran railway, they suffered from the defect of not containing any up to date information about new points and new rides and several other things which might evoke interest in a reader or a visitor. During the last decade, Matheran changed so vastly, that if some of its old citizens were to return to it after an absence of many years, well might they wonder if it was the self same Matheran of old that met their eyes! There is one more book about Matheran by Mr. Lewis. But it is very sketchy and as the writer himself confesses in his preface, "it does not aspire to be any thing more than a guide to the place and to suggest rather than dilate on the various objects of interest to be met with."

But I do not wish to point to any defects of other extant books as an apology for my present undertaking. I would only tell the reader, in delightful words of one

of the best Marathi Poets, that every one attempts a dip in the sacred Ganges though tens of thousands of other men have bathed in the heavenly waters. And besides to attempt a book like this seemed to me a nice way of repaying the obligations which this queen of Hills has heaped on my head during the last few years of my service, by its invigorating climate and its atmosphere of solitude and still-Very few persons know Matheran as they should and the misconceptions which many people entertain about it are often shocking. I remember one of my acquaintances once saying to me "Are you posted at Matheran? How did risk going there? It is, I believe the most malarious place in the District convicts are sent there for punishment?" He was a gentleman from Thana and a man of some education too! If he could speak of Matheran in such terms, what should be the monstrous ideas of common people? I am pained whenever I such souls and one of my chief objects in writing this is to reclaim such lost souls. Every visitor to Matheran should have in his pocket a small but sufficiently exhaustive book containing an upto date information which would leave no occasion for him to feel the necessity of begging help and guidance from others. To you, dear readers, I offer such a book.

A PEEP IN THE PAST.

With a little alteration in Scott's: lines we might well ask.

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead."

"Who never to himself hath said"

Nature! Wonderful Nature! When his eyes have feasted on the gorgeous beauty of Nature! It is the grandeur of Nature that gives the poet his inspiration, the philosopher his thirst after the infinite and the Scientist his unlimited desire to seek and know. The site of some solitary tree is an unmixed joy to a traveller wandering in dreary deserts. And even so does a man feel refreshed and renewed when at the end of a period of hard work, worries and anxieties, he goes to a hill Station like Matheran where he can forget all the troubles and responsibilities of his every day life and plunge himself headlong into the quiet and serene atmosphere. Though the ancient name of the Deccan is "Dandak Forest" a forest is not a common sight to us. Hill Stations like Simla, Ooti or Mahableshwar are as unapproachable for the common people as they God the friend of the poor charming. probably realised this and inspired Mr. Malet to discover a lovely spot Matheran which lies within reach of the rich and the poor alike!

The ancient history of Matheran is to be told. The Puranas of the Hindus speak of a warrior hero Parsharam, who drove the sea back with an arrow and reclaimed the strip of land which now goes by the name of Konkan. In those prehistoric times when the Deccan was known as "The Dandak Forest" Matheran was perhaps one of the many mountains which afforded refuse to aborigines when they had to give way to the onslaught of the Aryan invaders.

Coming to the latter days of the Mougals and the Marathas periods Indian History, we find this mountain surrounded in insignificance. In those times many a mountain rose to dignity of a castle, but Matheran humble Hill remained which ลท only supplied hay, wood, milk and honey to the country round about, and acted like a great wall to protect Shivaji Maharaj from the unfriendly advances of some of his foes. But every dog has his day, and soon after the advent of British Rule this mountain of Matheran which had occupied an unambitious position till then, suddenly sprang into eminence.

The Englishman is nothing if not an adventurous. And his spirit of adventure is curiously mixed with a passion for comfort. He may go to the North Pole, but once there, he must be comfortable. It is no wonder then that soon after the British settled down as rulers they began to search

for places which, even in the tropical climate of India, may yield them the pleasures of a cool and gracing climate. The result is that simultaneously with cities and towns like Bombay, Madras and Calcutta, attractive Hill Stations and Sanitariums also reared their heads. Matheran is one of these latter.

Till 1850 Matheran was no more than a grazing hill a fact which has found a permanent record in the name—a Marathi Compound of two words "Matha and Ran" meaning respectively "Head and Jungle". Till then only rustic people of the Hill tribes lived in their cottages on the Hill and in the villages round about.

We read a mythological story in the Hindu Puranas of a slab of stone transformed into a heavenly damsel at the mere touch of God Ramchandra's foot. So was many a dreary mountain transformed into forts and fortresses in the days of the great Shivaji, and later on in the 19th century the magic wand of Mr. Malet turned this Matheran into a luxurious summer resort.

Mr. Malet whose name Matheran will ever remember with filial affection, was the Collector of Khandesh, when in 1830 he happened to meet His Excellency Sir John Malcolm, the then Governor of Bombay. One day, while they were at breakfast, His Excellency received his post and found in it some papers relating to the case which was then under consideration as to whether the choice for a

Military Sanitarium should fall on the hills of Prabal or Matheran. The Military authorities had disapproved of both the Hills as neither of them had sufficient water supply. The matter was discussed between His Excellency and Mr. Malet. Later in 1850 Mr. Malet was posted as Collector of the Thana District and when once in that capacity he happened to be touring near Chauk, he recollected his conversation with His Excellency about Matheran and decided once to have a look at the Hills himself.

He started from Chauk and went up by a very narrow track passing the One Tree Roaming about, he collected much information from the shephards and then returned to Chauk, but now taking a different path through the jungle called Ram-Bag. Then he submitted a report to Government and secured a grant of Rs. 500 for preparing a road from Chauk to Ram-Bag. He also got the jungle cleared at certain places which opened out several beautiful points and also spent some money over making rides and paths leading to them. To make things complete Mr. Malet and one of his friends built their bungalows there. It then did not take much time for other bungalows to follow. The honour of being the first bungalows at Matheran falls to the following five:-

Bungalow. Owner.

- 1. Byke. Mr. Malet.
- 2. Barr-House. Captain Barr.
- 3. Walker's Cottage. Captain Walker.
- 4. Hermitage. Mr. Fawcett (Mr. Malet's brother)
- 5. Malet house Mr. Arthur. (do)

All these five bungalows meet the visitors' eye even now. Later on, Captain Dev, in accordance with Government orders carried out a Survey and proposed a road from Neral to Matheran as previously suggested by Mr. Malet. In 1853 Major Peacock made another Survey, cleared the jungle at fresh points and divided the plateau into plots to be sold out for building purposes. Mr. Malet, then by Government circular, notified the willingness of Government to lease building plots at Matheran at the rate of Rs. 5 per acre. One person was not to have more than five acres and other regulations were to be on the same lines as those prevailing at Mahableshwar.

The extremely low rate of rent attracted many people to Matheran and the number of bungalows rapidly increased. Even in the year 1853 there was a demand for as many as seventy plots. The rate of rent has gone up with the popularity of Matheran and to-day a plot can fetch as much as Rs. 2500 in rent and when it is sold in auction it often brings in fabulous value.

It was in 1854 that Mr. Malet retired from service. But Matheran can never





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forget him. His name lives forever and more linked with this Princess of Hill-Stations. He dragged her from obscurity, took her by the hand like a timid child, and set her before an admiring audiance. His love for Matheran was unbounded. It was in no way short of parental affection. He always referred to Matheran in such endearing terms as "my dearly beloved baby."

In 1854 Lord Elphistone, the then Governor of Bombay, visited Matheran in the month of May. He got a bungalow built for himself and called it "Elphistone Lodge". He also improved the water supply and making a pleasant departure from custom preferred Matheran to Mahableshwar for his summer residence. Matheran thus rose to the dignity of Government seat and then people flocked to it in huge crowds and the demand for bungalows by far exceeded the supply. Lord Elphistone was so fond of Matheran that very frequently he used to leave it in the morning to attend the Council session in Bombay and run again for his supper. Three other Governors honoured Matheran with their visits-Sir Richard Temple in 1877, Lord Sydenham in 1911 and Lord and Lady Willingdon in And thus, like Malet, Elphinstone, King and Victoria roads, there came into existance, Clarke and Willingdon Roads in memory of their visits.

His Highness the Maharaja Gaikawar of Baroda also paid a second visit to Matheran in April 1924.

The progress of Matheran was then rapid. It was decided to bring the Station under the authority of a Superintendent and Major Parkinson had the honour and the privilege of being appointed the first Superintendent of Matheran in 1856. carried out many improvements. In the very first year of his office, a Government Dispensary was opened and the bakery and lodge owned by Mr. John Manuel DeSouza opened its inviting gates on the 10th of September of that year. Matheran identical Post Office in 1864 and the carriage of Mails was arranged. In 1870 the Hill-Station Committee came into being and took up the administration of all local affairs. With the ever increasing rush of visitors Matheran had to provide new means of amusements and enlightenment and it was but a logical step in its development that a reading room and library was established in 1872.

One event in the history of Matheran is so unique that it will hardly be found recorded in the story of any other Hillstation in India and Matheran should well be proud of it. Who would believe that Matheran had a paper of its own! And yet it is a fact. A daring and enthusiastic citizen of Matheran by name Framji Metha started a paper under the title "Matheran Jotting" in the summer season of 1891. He turned it into a biweekly in 1892. It used to be printed on green paper and published

at first at"Red-House". It gave its readers every piece of local information regarding the visitors, the bungalows, the Hotels and their inmates and gained a fair amount of popularity. It was running till 1916. The issue of 7th June 1916 was its last breath.

It was in 1905 that the Hill-Station Committee evolved into a Municipality. Since then the Local Government of Matheran is in the Municipality's hands. There is much to tell about several other developments, but it is better to deal with them in subsequent chapters. We have carried the reader over the History of about four decades, and now to break the monotony of the course, he will gladly turn with us into some side way paths to get a clearer vision of things, which, in the present chapter, he could see as only parts of a birds-eye-view.

III

FROM BOMBAY TO MATHERAN.

The gateway to Matheran is Neral, a nice little station on the G. I. P. Railway line at a distance of 54 miles from Bombay and 66 miles from Poona. In the old days, when Bombay and Poona were not connected by an iron route, visitors from Bombay used to take a steamer Panvel and going up to Chauk by cart climbed up to Matheran by the Chauk It was then a trip of poin route. miles involving much trouble. But since the year 1854 Matheran has become more easily accessible. A visitor from Bombay days reach Neral station can in these within an hour and a half. The Neral Matheran Steam light Railway is a very recent development, and even to-day we find not a few visitors who are so imbued with a spirit of the globe-trotter that instead of taking advantage of Watt's steam and getting lifted by it to the hilltop, they prefer to walk it out from Neral to Matheran. We must, first guide such hearty pedestrians.

Neral is in many ways the most important centre in Karjat Taluka though the honours of the district place have, perhaps wrongly fallen on another's head. It has a fine climate and abounds in natural scenery. Its population approaches the decent figure of three thousand, and as a centre of business in rice, wood and coal its importance is great. The legend goes that Nana Saheb Peshwa, made famous by the mutiny of 1857, was born at Neral. We state it here for what it is worth. His relations, however, might well have belonged to this place, as Vengaon, in Karjat taluka, is believed to be his ancestral abode. Neral is Situated at about 300 feet from the sea level, and the hills of Matheran stand to its South-West.

Inspite of the onrush of civilization going up and down the hills of Matheran before its very eyes, Neral yet continues to be an old-world place in many respects. There you will in vain look out for a decent hotel or a boarding house. The best plan for the pedestrian is therefore, to get down at Neral in the early morning and to start for the hill-station at that pleasant, quiet, cool hour when the skylark begins its flight 'upwards' and 'onwards'.

Getting out of the Station premises we have to take a turn to the left. At a distance of about 250 steps is a mosque where there is a parting of the ways. The road to the right will take us to the heart of the village. Leaving that we have to take the left side and walk up to the Post Office. There again the right is not the right side for us. We have to follow the straight course, & once on it we are never in danger of getting lost. A ten feet wide royal road leads us on. After a walk of two miles and

a quarter, we reach the Railway Station the Jumma-Patti 28 Which is at a height of adout 830 feet above the sea level. Near the end of the third mile the road takes a turn, now facing the west. Here and there we come some stands where the coolies can easilv remove the loads from their heads unaided and give themselves a short spell of rest. Mile stones are there to register our progress and they also bear signs which speak of our height from the sea level. The water-Pipe Station stands at the end of the fourth mile at a height of about 1658 feet. Here we begin to feel a distinct change in the climate as the cool breeze rushes past us and mitigates the effects of exhaustion that may be coming on. The Jumma-Patti and the Water Pipe are not stations in the usual sense of the term. Passangers of the Light Railway neither get in nor get down here. They are only halts for the tired engine which takes in a fresh supply of coal and water, though tea and drinks occasionally be obtained here by the passangers. From the Water Pipe to the Toll Station it is a steep mile. No toll is now levied here, but the name has still lingered as names very often do. The Toll Station is five miles from Neral and 2200 ft. above the Sea level. Here stands Mr. Kassam Mittha's bungalow ever ready to greet and welcome the new visitor, the envigorating climate of the hills gives its undeniable testimony, the traveller's sweated brow is

dried by the generous and gentle wind, and his heart experiences an undescribable joy. If it is September or October, in the valley beneath him little green and yellow fields spread out like wonderful carpets, on the tree tops over his head little birds chatter their glorious sweet songs of delight, and round about him numerous streams murmur their way through rocky crevices and dance to the melody. Then it is surely heaven on earth, and as the poet says a "Crowded moment" of such a joyous experience "is worth an age of" dull prosaic life. He who visits Matheran without having lived at least a moment of this thrilling experience, visits it in vain. We should recommend with all the earnestness at our command that those of the visitors who either think it below their dignity to use their God given pair of feet or are under some natural disabilty to bear the stress of climbing up, should at least 'risk' a walk on their way back. We hope the Matheran Railway would not sue for damages from us for this recommendation of ours!

Avoiding the two extremes of a walk and a railway journey to Matheran one can cut a mean if one likes by using a horse or a Munchil, or a Rickshaw. The latter two conveyances cannot be expected with any certainty. They do not belong to Neral and they are available only when they have brought down some passangers. Arrangements can, however, be made

through an agent at Matheran to keep them ready at Neral. Horses can be procured at any time, the following tables of fare will be useful:—

NERAL TO MATHERAN.

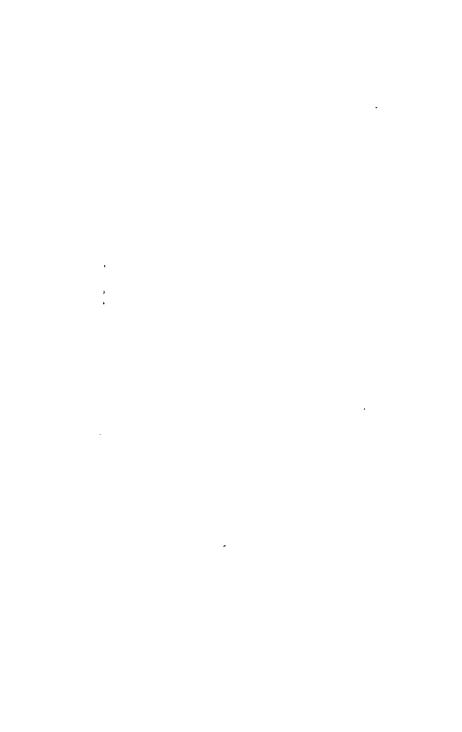
	Conveyance.	Time.	Fare.
1	1st Class Horse	1½ to 2 hours	Rs. 5-0-0
2	2nd Class Horse	1½ to 2 hours	,, 4-0-0
3	3rd Class Horse	,, ,,	,, 2-8-0
4	Rickshaw	2 hours	,, 8-0-0
5	Munchil	1, 1,	, 7-0-0

These do not represent any officially sanctioned fares. They have only the sanction of custom behind them. The Fares From Matheran to Neral are the same. Ponies mays some times be had even at a low fare of Rs. 1-8-0. The classes of the horses are indicated by coloured strips on their heads—Yellow showing the first, blue the second and red the third class.





المراجعة



The Superintedent of Matheran has the control of all conveyances. Rules and regulations about the Rickshaws are mentioned in Bombay Act of 1920 as follows:—

Munchil Nowadays Chairs,
Tonjon and Palkhis
Palkhi are not in use generally.

- (1) All Munchils to have at least four bearers and Rickhaws three bearers.
- (2) Every Rickshaw, or Munchil is allowed to carry only one passenger, in, and only 10 lbs. his luggage with him.
- (3) In reckoning the number of passengers, children in arms and children under the age of eight when accommpanied by an elder person shall not be counted. Two children, not being children in arms but each being under the age of 12 shall count as one passenger.
 - (4) Stands of Rickshaws.
 - 1 The Karsondas Mulji library,
 - 2 Railway Station.
- (5) In any case in which a public conveyance is called from a stand or owner's shed to any place distant more than a mile from such stand or shed the conveyance owner will be entitled to charge 8 annas in addition to the prescribed fare. And the conveyance owner is also entitled in addition to the prescribed fare to a fare of two annas for each quarter of an bour of detaintion by the hirer at the commencement

or end of a journey beyond the time necessary for the journey.

Horses, Rickshaws and Munchils can be hired for local trips on the hill station. The rates of fare are shown below:—

FARES ACCORDING TO TIME

	Conveyance.	First Hour.	Subsequent hour or part of hour.
1	1st Class Horse	Rs. 2-0-0	Re. 1-0-0
2	2nd Class Horse.	,, 1-8-0	,, 0-12-0
3	3rd Class Horse.	,, 1-0-0	,, 0-8-0
4	Rickshaw.	,, `1–8–0	,, 0-12-0
5	Manchil.	" "	,,

Horses can be had near the station at the back side of Railway hotel.

According to distance Rickshaws and Manchils can be hired at Re. 0-8-0 for the first half mile and 0-4-0 for every subsequent quarter mile.

To-day there are 60 licensed horses, 56

Rickshaws and 3 Manchils.

The distance between Neral and Matheran Post-office is seven full miles. road is 10 feet wide and it is so steep that driving a cart is impossible. Nor is it allowed by Government. Only horses, Rickshaws and petty tradesmen have, therefore, come to monopolise the road to themselves. To ride a cycle or drive a motor is also out of question. At Matheran proper all the roads are steep and narrow, and a vehicle like a cycle or a motor would prove a Menace to the safety of people. Naturally they are prohibited. just by way of experiment an enterprising wealthy business man tried in 1923 to run a motor. But the results \mathbf{of} experiment are not known to us. They are not very encouraging adventure has not yet materialised any definite project.

We have already said that the Railway line from Bombay to Poona was constructed in 1854. It came as a great boon to lovers of Matheran as it enabled them to from Bombay to Neral within ninety minutes. But man can expected with the comforts that within his reach. He will ever be crying for more. It is this eternal cry that has led to all scientific inventions & discoveries. The same cry brought about the struction of the Neral-Matheran Railway line. The inconvenience of going up from Neral either on a horse or a rickshaw was very much felt by those who could afford to pay for more luxurious & speedy vehicles if they were available, & the length of time involved in going up on a horseback was also not much relished by business men coming from Bombay to whom time was even more valuable than pounds. Government, therefore, began to think of having a railway which would run between Neral and Matheran, and invited schemes for that purpose.

Along with others Sir Adamji Peerbhoy submitted a scheme which was approved of by Government in 1903. Sir Adamji Peerbhoy's name is so indissolubly linked with Matheran that a book like ours would scarcely be complete without a few lines about his life. He was born at Dhoraji in Kathiawar in 1845. Poverty drove him in his early age to Bombay and there he began his career as a petty contractor. But his stars were on the ascendant and his bussiness speedily grew. In 1878 came the Chitral campaign and the war with the Afridis, and during those days he supplied Government with all material with such precision and efficiency that he made them wonder at Adamji Peerbhoy's business This brought him fame methods. heaps of money too, and he was recognised as one of the foremost merchant Princes Sir Adamji's generosity and of Bombay. charitable disposition were as immense as his wealth, and he was ever ready to extend a helping hand to the poor and the needy. His charities amounted to more

than half a crore being shared by various institutions like the Aligarh College science, a Bohrah School and a sanitarium. a market and a museum at Dhoraji, and relief fund for the famine stricken. was made Sheriff of Bombay in 1897 and in 1907 Government honoured him with a Knight-hood. An interesting story is told as to how Sir Adamji Peerbhoy came to entertain the project of a Neral Matheran Railway. Once he came down from Bombay up to Neral. But there was excessive rush. All the horses and rickshaws were booked. Not a single vehicle was available. Adamji had to brook disappointment. had to return to Bombay. But in that hour of disappointment a momentous decision was made. He must have a railway of his own that would run up to Matheran from Neral; and he would visit Matheran only after the railway was ready to take him up.

As we have said above Sir Adamji Peerbhoy's Railway Scheme was approved Government in the September Sir Adamji did not like to waste **1**903. Work was immediately begun. engaged the special services of a well known engineer Raisaheb Harichand who planned the Matheran railway on exactly the same as the Simla Kalka Hill Station The work went on for Railwav. The expenses mounted about four years. up to thirteen lacs. But at last the line was ready in 1907 and Sir Adamji could

enjoy the satisfaction of an "ambition fulfilled."

The Matheran Railway differs from the G. I. P. Railway in the breadth of its gauge, the Size of its carriages and all other details. Besides it probably comes not under the Railway Act but the Tramway Act. It is therefore known as the Matheran Steam Light Railway, or, more commonly as, the Matheran Steam Tramway. is at present a proprietory concern solely owned by Mr. Karimbhoy, Sir Adamji's son. The G. I. P. company runs it and is paid for the management. Being a hill station Railway its rates of fare are much higher than that of ordinary Railways. For instance the third class rate of fare on the G. I. P. line is 4 pies per mile, while the lower class rate of fare on the Matheran line is 33 pies. Its gauge is 2 ft. and it extends over about 13 miles. The Matheran Railway runs a Hotel at Matheran Station where up-to-date comforts in boarding, lodging and refreshments are provided at moderate Tariff.

The timings and fares of the Matheran Railway are not a fixed entity. They follow the Greek thinker's philosophy of "constant change." The intending visitor would do well to look into the latest timetable. To give him a rough idea, however, we quote the following from the latest issue of the Time & fare-table.

23
BOMBAY TO NERAL.

Station	Miles.	Time.	First Class.	Second.	Third.	Per Mile.
Bombay.	0	9		•••		1st 30 Pies.
Thana.	21	0	3.50	1-10-0	0.9.0	2nd 16 ,,
Kalyan.	34	0 45 mits. mail.	5 -5 0	2-11-0	0-14-0	Inter. 7½ third. 4
Neral.	54	1-20 mail.	8-7 0	4-4-0	1-7-0 1-2-0	1

NERAL TO MATHERAN.

Station.	Miles	Time hour	Upper class	Lower.	On Sunday 3rd.	* Per mile
Neral. Matherian.	0 13	$egin{array}{c} 1rac{3}{4} \ ext{hour} \end{array}$	5-12-0 5- 4-0 4-8-0	1	1-4-0	Upper85 Pies. Lower-33 ,, (Sunday- $18\frac{1}{2}$) ,,

^{*} The rates per mile are only our calculation. The Railway does not work up its fare by any fixed fare permile. It fixes the fares in lump.

THEY INVITE YOU TO STAY.

The majority of visitors to Matheran are Parsis and Europeans and a few Mahomedan and Gujrati merchants. Single passengers prefer to lodge in Hotels, where they can have all arrangements made to their satisfaction. Several wealthy merchants of Bombay own bungalows here. Some visitors procure bungalows on rent either directly from the owners or through their agents.

Hindu visitors to Mahableshwar can find decent accommodation with the local priests who regard them as their clients. But Matheran carries no religious association as Mahableshwar, and consequently fails to afford cheap arrangements for the Hindu tourist. He must either seek shelter in a costly hotel or forego the pleasures of the Hill Station. But where there is a will there is a way. We make the following few suggestions which may be acceptable to the earnest visitor of modest means.

- 1. Local men like the clerks and the shopkeepers may generously give the visitor shelter under their roof; or a Mali or a Watchman of some bungalow may entertain him as an honoured guest.
- 2. There is room enough for two Hindu families in the premises adjacent to Temple of Rama which is situated in

the very heart of the station. It can be had at Re. 1 per day per family. They are, however, unfurnished rooms.

- 3. There is a special Dharmashala in the Temple of Shankara. There are two bed rooms and one kitchen with some furniture and also utensils. A charge of Rs. 2 per day used to be formerly made. It is said the rooms are going to be given free of charge in future, and only some donation to the Temple Fund being expected of those who may use them.
- 4. The Hindu Sanitarium provides good accomodation. Furnished rooms can be secured by writing to the owner at Bombay. They consist of a kitchen and two airy, spacious rooms. A rent of Rs. 10 to 15 may suffice.
- 5. Near the castle hill a new Sanitarium for Bhatias provides good accomodation.

Some visitors wish to do Matheran in a day. For them the best plan would be to come up on a Sunday morning, so that they can witness the bustle of the Market day. They should have equipped themselves with the necessary refreshments, and having visited some points and places should close their round at charlotte lake or Malet spring where they can spend a leisurely hour in the glorious cool shade and enjoy a hearty grub and drink the elixirlike spring water to their heart's content.

- 6. There is a Bohra Sanitarium which provides accommodation for people of that community.
- 7. Government servants can get the use of the Dak bungalow.

No more need be said for this class of visitors who have to keep one eye on economy and can spare only the other for sight seeing. And for those who afford to spend liberally, Matheran also liberally extends all conveniences. Matheran abounds in Hotels. Mr. J. M. De Souza claims the credit of having been the first to start a Hotel in as far back as 1854 i.e. just the year when the G.I.P. line between Bombay and Poona was laid. In 1875 Matheran had four Hotels—the Chowk, Alexander, Clarendon and Hopehall. day it can boast of easily a dozen. intend to introduce them to our readers.

Rugby Hotel (three furlongs from the Ry. Station): This is the biggest and the foremost Hotel of Matheran. It was Started in 1881 and was first located towards the Garbut point. It is owned by a gentleman, Mr. B. S. Chinoy, and occupies the topmost spot in Matheran, facing the It is the favourite resort of the European visitors. Its rooms are commodious with spacious verandahs, luxurious Dining Hall and a Drawing Room. Ample entertainment is also provided. is most famous, however, for the ærated The charges provides. waters it Rs. 8 per day and upwards.

- 2. Metropole (Gymkhana) Hotel (5 furlongs from the station): Owing to its vicinity to the Gymkhana to its East, this was formerly known as the Gymkhana Hotel. Its Drawing Room commands a very beautiful view towards the North. It is a very commodious place and has a Badminton Court. The Ponsonby Spring is close by.
- 3 Granville (5 furlongs from the station): This was established in 1888. It can be reached by a road that branches off from the Gymkhana. It provides quite comfortable lodging and board.

4. Pinto: (4 furlongs from the Railway Station.)

- 5. Savoy: South of these are owned by Khan Bahadur Vikaji Pirojshah Bhiladwala and are situated on the main road near the Karsandas Moolji Library. The former was started in 1875 and was then known as the Prince of Wales Hotel.
- 6 Hopehall (4 furlongs from the Station.): It is opposite the Forest Depot and lies on the way from the Library to the Hospital. As we have said above it is one of the oldest Hotels of Matheran. Its situation is central.
- 7 N. Lords' Refreshment Room (4 furlongs from the Station.): This lies just opposite the library. Tables are laid out in the open air in front and the Gramophone provides good music.
- 8 Clarendon (7 furlongs.): You come across with this in front of the Play

ground as you pass on from the Municipal Office. It commands a fine view of the Charlotte lake which lies quite like a neighbour, to it. Like Hopehall it is one

of the oldest Hotels of the place.

9 Railway Hotel: This is the most central hotel. It is quite adjacent to the railway station. This hotel is suitable for convalescents invalids. Its special features are its building of upper floor and electric light. It has, moreover a garden with big pavement and a vast compound making a delightful playground for children. The hotel is conducted by the well known army contractors Messrs. C. P. Billimoria. & Co. of Poona.

10. Lord Hotel (7 furlongs): The late Mr. H. N. Lord owned four different Hotels, and they were so popular that many regarded H. N. Lord and Matheran as interchangable names. The efficiency of his Hotels went a great way to popularise Matheran. There of his old Hotels have, however, now gone into other hands, and his sons are at present conducting only one, known as the Lord Hotel. It is located in the Paradise Lodge near the play ground.

11. Royal Hindu (Chowk) Hotel: (14 furlongs.) This is also one of the oldest Hotels conducted by Mr. Govindji Vasanji a well known business man of Bombay. Like the Rugby Hotel it occupies a very envious position on the Olympia Race Ground. The vicinity of the Race course is a great advantage and the view also is ideal. The Hotel

is located in a palatial building and its charges range from Rs. 5 upwards.

12. Lakshmi Hindu Hotel (3 furlongs and a half): This was started in 1909 and lies within easy reach of the Library, the post office and the Railway station, commanding a nice view of the Garbut Point, Khandala and Karjat. Mr. Bulakhidas Dayashanker is its proprietor.

All these Hotels keep richly furnished rooms and provide excellently clean boarding and lodging arrangements. Their management is in competent hands and every need of the visitor is ministered. They invite you to stay!

AS IT IS TO DAY.

(1) GEOGRAPHY OF MATHERAN.

We have already said before that Matheran consists of three different mountain ranges. The western range, which is the smallest of the three, extends North to South from the Porcupine to the Louisa Point measuring more than a mile in length and about two furlongs in width. The middle range is the biggest, extending from the Hart Point to the North to the Chowk Point to the South. It is shaped like a bow about four miles long and a mile wide. It is on this range that most of the bungalows are situated. The Third Eastern range runs from the Panorama Point in the North-West to the Garbut Point in the South-East, covering two and a half to three miles, in length and about three furlongs in width. The total area would come to about eight square miles. Measuring from the Chowk Point to the Panorama Point the length is six miles and circumference of the station would mean a circuit of about eighteen miles. The surface is mostly uneven.

Nearly all Hill-Stations are made of red stone. And again the whole district of Ratnagiri abounds in that variety of laterite. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Soil of Matheran is all red. It may well be said that the Soil is void of black stone and lime, though the former is in some degree found at the Walker's Tank and some portion of the Lake and is likely to be obtained if a depth of two hundred feet is dug. It is very curious that while the hill shows nothing but red laterite not an inch of red soil meets the eye anywhere as soon as you get down.

(2) HEIGHT AND TEMPERATURE.

The height of Neral-which forms the foot of the Matheran hill—from the sea level is 325 feet and the Plateau of the Hill-Station itself is at a height of 2650 from the sea. Matheran is thus higher by about 700 feet than Khandala, Lonavla, Igatpuri or Deolali, though its height is only half of that of Mahabaleshwar's.

Bombay's avarage temperature is 79-80 degrees, and calculating by the usual rule that every 300 feet of height reduce one degree in temperature. Matheran's average comes to 69°. The sultry aspect of the Bombay heat is entirely absent at Mathe- ${
m the}$ maximum temperature and That Matheran is very summer is 90∘. pleasant in Summer is a matter of common knowledge, but many people have wrong notions of Matheran's winter. We purposely give below a table showing the temperatures of the Hill-Station in different seasons. The figures both for temperature and rainfall are recorded in the office of the superintedent of Matheran and in the Bombay gazetter.

Season.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum average.	Minimum average.
Winter.	810	6 0º	77-6	65-2
Summer.	90°	71°	84-5	74-5
Mon s oon	75°	68⁰	72•	70•

The above figures represent the averages of the last ten years. It is a common error to suppose that Matheran gets unbearable in winter. But a comparison of these figures with those of other places will easily give a true idea of the winter at Matheran. For instance, a wintry morning is not as severe here as it is at Neral, nor the heat in the noon so scorching. Neral thus undergoes a considerable fluctuation in weather from morning to evening, which is prominently absent here. One can, therefore, easily get adjusted to the cold season of Matheran.

(3) RAINFALL

During the monsoon the hill of Matheran is always covered with clouds and often we lose sight of it behind the thick veil of clouds and mist. Captain Barr had kept a very careful record of the rainfall which showed that the average

was 300 inches from 1853 to 300 inches from 1850 to 1800, and as high as 476 inches in 1868, a year marked by an enormous rain fall of 35 inches on a single day. Then the average sank down during the next twenty years to 220 inches and lower down to 204 later on. The year 1899 was peculiarly poor, the rainfall being only 99 inches. This gradual deterioration the rains is explained by Captain Barr due to various reasons, chief among them being the destruction of the jungle clearing building space. Below we have noted the figures of rainfall for the last six years :-

 1918
 101

 1919
 239

 1920
 218

 1921
 442

 1922
 197

 1923
 179

The average for these years thus comes to 229 inches. Outdoor work becomes well-nigh impossible in the monsoon and one has to confine himself to indoor business. Monsoon is by its very nature tiring and Matheran need not be an exception to the rule. It need not be supposed that the Venus constantly sends down torrents of water for all the twenty-four hours of the day throughout the monsoon. But here rains are very deceiving, and it never rains but pours. It is not very windy when it rains. But it is very cold and warm clothes become a necessity. Yet

the monsoon here is never painful. The whole of the Kolaba district complained of a dreadful monsoon in 1923, but the rain fall here was 179 inches. Though at times the fall was very heavy and caused damage to the roads, Railway line &c.

(Scenery)—The swing of the hot season begins to slow down from the 15th of June. The first few big showers frighten away the fashionable folk to the plains, and then the Station settles down to a quiet life with only the clerks, the Malis and the shopkeepers as its faithful residents, who begin in right earnest their preparations to receive the monsoon. What with setting up tin sheds or táttis of hay and leaves for protecting the walls of the bungalows against wind and rain and mist, heaping up in a safe corner all the little earthen flower pots which had made a beautiful garden in the season, spreading a thick layer of leaves on the paths lest they might get totally wiped out under onrush of the showers, the citizens Matheran have a busy time of it for some days. Every thirg seems to be on its way to demolition. They pull down what ever they had erected only a few days back. We feel as if people at Matheran are given to doing things in the Season and undoing them in the monsoon. Even the Matheran Railway looks like having lost its way and lying low in its warm shed. During the season the Hill is engrossed in treating the visitors from far and near and has hardly

any time to attened to her permanent citizens. Realising this sin of omission the Hill, as if in a penitent mood, indulges in an ample holy bath in the harbinger showers, and then gives to her proper children more than a compensating joy peace. The grandeur of during the monsoon defies all description. Wherever, you turn your eye meets with the green grass and the green trees. house tops, the big slabs of stone, and the stumps of trees,—all are covered with thick coat of moss, as if nature has generously provided them with a green overcoat wherewith to protect them close wind. Countless streams rain and water keep gushing, and look like the out bursts of Nature's joy! Huge torrents of water roar and foam and leap down every precipice, looking like the heavy trunks Indra's white elephants. Α shroud of an all pervading grey mist inter mittently spreads itself over every thing. as if Nature hesitates to reveal her glory to the polluted mortal eye and now and again conceals it under a muslim veil. And the cuckoo sings, and sings. until we feel we must make her stop lest her voice may grow hoarse.

(4) WEATHER AND SANITATION.

Matheran's weather is at once dry and cold and also combines other various properties which make it ideal. The popularity which this Hill Station enjoys

with the Europeans and all the rich Indian communities is evident in the very names which the various bunglows, roads and points bear. The thick wood, the glorious points, the bracing weather, the clean paths, roads and rides, the provision of all games—all these together render Matheran a perfect place where cannot help keeping fit like a fiddle. walks in the mornig and evening give adequate exersire and the sharpened appetite makes the food delicious. A siesta after lunch is inevitable and you can well afford it for you go to Matheran for absolute rest from the regular life of hurry. Long walks, pleasent meals and unqualified rest constitute the charm of Matheran, and even a short spell of this life is sure to benefit every soul jaded and exhausted under drudgery of work in the hot cities. Even a week's stay adds to your weight, and you feel as if you have stored up a fresh supply of nervous energy and stamina. Matheran is truly a bewitching place and many distinguished men have waxed eloquent over its merits. The following are a few typical extracts of what praises prominent men have bestowed on this hill.

1. "I am proud of that hill, because it has verified all my ideas of its name."

MR. MALET.

2. "It would be difficult to discover on the map of the world a spot so endowed with refreshment, health and peace. The

climate of Matheran is absolutely free from all suspicion of malaria."

Dr. J. P. BARRY.

3. "All persons jaded by work or heat, or convalascent from fevers or from other exhausting diseases may spend both the hot and cold seasons at Matheran with advantage."

SURGEON GENERAL SIR WILLIAM MOORE.

4. "The proximity of the sea air reveals new treasures of ozone and inroduces an element of equality and softness which are wanting in the sharp tinicity of the Simla, Mahabaleshwar and Ooty ranges. There is nothing better for old congestions of liver or lungs than exercise which is the best of doctors, to reduce them, and every invalid finds it possible to go in for exercise at Matheran."

Dr. Smith.

5. "People do not prize what they can get so cheap and thus one of the most beautiful and salubrious hills of India is being gradually abandoned by Europeans through lack of some expostulating voice to point them out the treasures of health that a hill like Matheran pours into their very lap at the cost of three hours journey.

An English doctor.

6. "In all Europe you would seek in vain for a climate more balmy than belongs to Matheran. A cool air that does not chill; a still air that breeds no draught; a high

air that extulerates without fatiguing; a dry air that knits the tissues and gives buoyancy to the frame and fits it for exertion, an atmosphere in which there is a perennial play of shade and sunshine in whatever proportion the health of man can want; an accessibility which brings all this almost to the door of the busy man as cheaply as to the prince. Where on the face of Europe could we get all these conditions blended in such plenitude!"

TIMES OF INDIA.

(5) WATER SUPPLY.

The question of an adequate Supply of water for Matheran is a Gordian knot unless it is cut by the ingenuity of some clever brain Matheran hope to remedy some of its troublesome inconveniences. The people of Matheran will bless the day when sufficient supply of water would be easily available at least drinking purposes. Attempts have repeatedly been made to discover some rich spring of water, but they have all failed. During the regime of Lient.Col.Superintendent Khareghat a big well had been sunk on the Olympia with the help of a water finder in consultation with Dr. But the project proved barren and had to be given up. Major Pox, when he visited 1923, was consulted Matheran in this matter and he, not only marked two different spots, one on the Rugby and



the other near the Harrison Spring but even guaranteed rich springs under them. Accordingly the work of sinking a well near the Harrison spring has commenced, and if it proves fruitful the other well also will be sunk.

To-day the major burden of watersupply is borne by the Charlotte Lake, though some people fetch water from the Malet spring for drinking purposes with a view to profit by its mineral constituents. The old world methods of carrying water in leather or canvass bags on ox-back have to be followed. There are people who follow the profession of a water-carrier, and are called Bhistis though in some cases even the Malis who keep the bunglows also as water-carriers. The way to and from Charlotte Lake is a series of steep ascents and descents and a good strong ox can do not more than five trips a day. Even the watercarrier gets unfit for the hard work after three years. But in the absence of modern mechanical means of water supply this crude method has to be followed even when it obviously entails some cruelty to animal and human life. These water carriers sell from 2 to 4 pakhals per rupee, each pakhal containing about 15 gallons of water. the water carriers do about 200 trips to the Lake every day.

1. Charlotte Lake: This is, as we have already said, the principal source of water at Matheran. It has four dams one behind the other, and with an area of three acres,

contains 15830194 gallons of water. The third dam was erected in 1866-67 at a cost of Rs. 53,300 and was raised still higher later on. The fourth dam was constructed in about 1880, and being 38 feet in height has a greater capacity than the third dam by eight feet. When the visitors scatter away and the season is over by the end of june the doors of the Lake are opened and the water is let off. Again, as September draws to a close the doors are closed and the storage of water commences. The year about 1898 a stone floor was put round the Lake which enabled the washermen and the Bhistis to do their work with ease. waste water is let away so as to water plots of cabbage and other vegetables. A special watchman guards the Lake.

Simpson Tank: This is situated near the Railway Line between the Hart Point and the Panorama hill i.e. in the valley between the biggest range and the Eastern range. It was a back as 1858 that Lord Elphinstone had conceived the idea of a Tank at this point, but the actual construction took place in 1875 under the suprevision of Mr. Simpson. The capacity of this Tank is about 4 and a quarter lacks of gallons of water cubic feet. The water has a sweet taste and is used by people who stay on the North side as to them this is the nearest Tank. Here too a watchman keeps a guard.

Malet spring: This takes its rise on the top of the Maldung valley and is made up of five or six different springs dripping from a considerable depth in the crevices of rocks. It is a perennial spring, never drying up. yet wastage is not advisable and the Matheran Municipality takes utmost pains to insure proper economy in the use The spring water is stored of the water. up on an adjacent rock and a pipe is set which serves the purpose of visitors to the spot. Another pipe is set which gives water to the local people. Both the reservoirs are covered with iron lids. The watchman takes every precaution against wanton waste and cleanliness is very strictly enforced. The water of this spring is simply nectar, sweet and always ice-cold. After a tramp round the Points the sun-scorched visitor may arrive here breathless with fatigue and tired in every limb; yet the mere touch of this Malet water acts like a heavenly tonic and restores all freshness and vigour. This water contains iron and Phosphorous and hence has hygienic properties of great value. Malet spring is the dearest spot to every one at Matheran and the Poet has Sung:—

> "Malet, thy lovely name shall ever be Remembered by all visitors and me. Thou art the father of this hill Where all forget their cares and ills '

Aristocracy of Matheran get their drinking water from the Malet spring. Why, some enthusiasts go to the length of taking this water even to Bombay!!

- 4. Harrison Spring: This is situated on the Myra Point. Realising the misery of the people consequent on the scarcity of water the late Nana Shankar Shet erected a dam against a perennial spring which he found to the East of his bungalow—the Harrison bungalow—and constructed a Tank with a pipe for public use. The spring does not dry up even in Summer and the Tank is a veritable boon to the public. This is known amongst the common folk as the "Galati".
- 5. Ponsonby Spring: This is popularly known as the "Gâtâdi" and is situated midway between the "Maldung" and the "peb" points. It derives its name from Capt. Ponsonby who constructed it.
- 6. Walker's Tank: This lies on our way to the Louisa Point near the Robertson bungalow and is more like a small lake than a Tank. The villagers call it "Bâldi." Its supply lasts for not more than eight months. We find some black laterite in the vicinity of this Tank. Walker's Tank serves as a memorial to Capt. Walker.

We have spoken above of the major sources of water. Various minor sources may also be briefly mentioned. They bear very queer names. One is called the "Kâlokhi" whose proper designation is Chalet Spring. Another is known as the

"Tâmbdi" (Red). A third is called the "Shindâ," and others are the "Surung," the "Dhangar" and the "Handi water". But none of these keeps running during Summer. They live only for four to six months and serve only as things to fall back upon when the October season is not on and the water carriers do no work.

The new water Scheme: Various schemes have upto now been conceived and hatched. But all of them were too costly and consequently impracticable. One workable scheme has now, however, been drawn and both the Municipality and Government have set on it their seals of approval. Out of the estimated cost of three lacs and sixteen thousand rupees, one lac is to be had as Government Grant, one lac as loan from Government, one lac to be provided by the Municipality from its funds and the remaining is to be realised from those who would take the pipes that would be distributed from the reservoir. The scheme proposes to water from the Charlotte Lake up into a big store to be constructed on the Rugby hill-top and to send it down to sub-stores at different points and from there to all Work according to this scheme has already begun as is shown by the new sluice Gate of the charlotte Lake. thrice blessed when the day would be scheme will be completed and the Matheran people will get water at a mere turn of the pipecock. Let us hope that day is not far off.

PLANTS.

Much of Matheran's charm is derived from the thick ever-green forest, it bears all over its body and crest. Had it not been for its wealth of plants and trees Matheran would never have risen from oblivion. A bare hill with an in sufficient watersupply would not have proved very attrac-Matheran must, therefore, preserve its wood with a parental care, and it is but proper that at Matheran you cannot put your axe to even a tiny little tree without the superintendent's permission. A peculiarly soft and rich soil is always necessary for the vigorous growth of trees and Matheran possesses one of that kind.

During his stay at Matheran Sir George Birdwood had taken great pains to study the plants here, and published the results of his study. He remarks that there is a great difference between the nature of the plants at Matheran and Mahableshwar owing to the latter being further removed from the sea and at double the height from the sea level, and also the difference in weather and water. There are 140 plants which are peculiar to Matheran, while there are 130 plants which are found at Mahableshwar but they do not grow here.

Mr. Edulji Dorabji Talathi, the late Principal of the Elphinstone High School of Bombay used to visit Matheran very frequently. He was as inquisitive as learned, and collected much interesting information regarding the Matheran plants. The boys who attend the Matheran school are drawn from remote places in the jungle and naturally are conversant with the nature and properties of many a plant. Mr. Talathi thought of putting the inherited knowledge of these rustic lads to a good use by organising a botanical exhibition and immediately moved in the matter and secured the sanction of the Director of Public Instruction. Through the help of the village lads he collected about 500 specimens and arranged them in an attractive exhibition. Every specimen bore a label giving its name and a short account of its properties, and the students of the School were always ready to supply the curious visitor with additional information if was sought. This unique Exhibition held on the 13th of May 1905 and was open for a long time. It was a success and every visitor to the Hill station, small or great, considered himself benefitted by it.

Any visitor to Matheran, if he keeps his pair of eyes open, will come across several typical trees, little shrubs, wild vegetables, flowering plants and also some plants imported from a far for purposes of decoration. It is not possible to give a detailed description of each and every one of them. Yet we cannot pass on without briefly mentioning those that are more common and more characteristic.

The most common trees here are Anjani and Kadu Jambhul (also called Par Jambhul).

- 1. Hirda: This is more abundantly found to the Garbut Point side. It has medical properties and it can also be used for manufacturing ink. Hirda, Beheda and Avalkatti—all these varieties are found in a group at the Water Pipe. The combination of the fruit of these three plants has a great laxative property and is a common prescription in the Hindu Materia Medica as a cathartic agent.
- 2. Kumbal: The fruit of this are used to kill fish & rats.
- 3. Shikekai: These can well be substituted for washing soaps.
- 4 Pângli: The roots, and juice of leaves is a very effective antidote for scorpion poison.
- 5. Dindâ: This acts as a good cure for swelling.
- 6. Pânphuti: is used against the guinea worms.
- 7. Kombadnakhi: This derives its name from its roots which closely resemble the hen's nails, and used for healing up wounds, and against scorpion bite.
- 8. Dagadful & Tamâlpatra: These are very good constituents for the spices which are so dear to the Indian palate.
- 9. Dudhvel: This is a very effective blood purifier.

- 10. Måkadi: This is very nice for fomenting purposes in the case of fractures of bone.
- 11. Kharwat: This may used as a substitute for sand paper.
- 12. Bhuta: This might serve as a smelling salt.
 - 13. Agâswel \ Both have medical
 - 14. Ragatrod | qualities. The latter is found near the lake.
- 15. Lokhandi: Its flowers have a nice fragrance.
- 16. Kokamb: The fruit of this tree is very useful in many ways. the skin of the fruit is turned after many operation into a kind of spice called "Amsol" which is frequently used in curries.
- 17. Kârvi: The branches of this are very much used in making thatches for poor men's cottages.
- 18. Pândhari: It is very difficult to procure straight branches of this tree. The stick of this tree is very weighty and people believe that it keeps away all evil spirits.
- 19. Pisâ: It is in no way attractive in appearance. But its leaves have considerable tonic properties. Its leaves should be dried & powdered and taken every morning in boiled milk.

Besides these there are found various kinds of berries which are as sweet in the inside pulp as they are humble in the outward appearance.

Mangos and Jackfruil are available and honey combs also can be found at Malet spring and Hart Point side.

(7) BIRDES.

Whenever we visit a Point and sit in its thick shade the notes of the cuckoo and the Bulbul and various other birds provide heavenly music to our ears. The thickness of the trees hide the musicians from our view. But we crave to have a look at them. Matheran shows us numerous varieties of birds, which never meet our eyes in the cities, exhibiting different hues, different sizes and different voices, some sweet and some shrill.

The Cuckoo: This is the Prince of all singing birds, and is heard singing all day during the monsoon.

The Bulbul: This is also a favourite singing bird, and is very frequently found giving out its sweet notes on the way from the Louisa to the Porcupine Point at evening time.

There are many other birds also which seem to carry on a conversation with each other, one bird calling and another answering in a different tune.

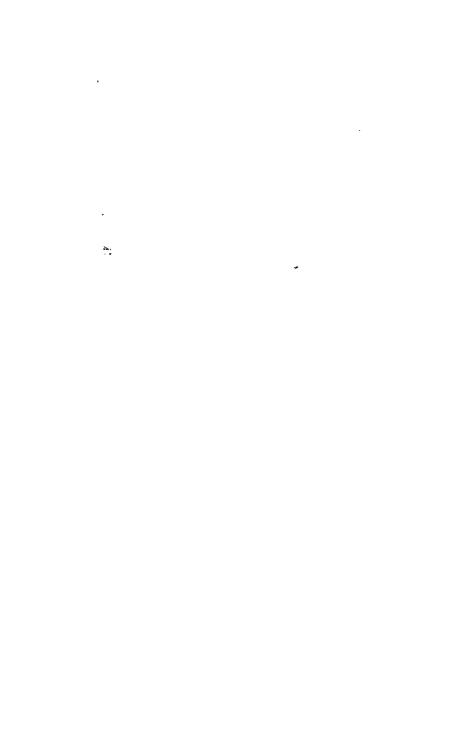
Other birds are known, not for their voice, but for the beauty of their feathers. The most prominent amongst these are the sun-bird, the Robinson, the spotted Dove, the Parrot, the purple Honey sucker, and the Shriek. Shikra is a peculiar bird





SIMPSON TANK.





changing its colour now and again. His nest is a wonderful affair that might set even the best engineers thinking and his eggs are said to possess medical properties.

The crow is markedly a rare bird here.

(8) WILD BEASTS.

Lions and panthers are hardly found here. Mahabaleshwar has a bigger jungle than Matheran, and hence the which of panthers are an oft-repeated phenomenon at the former are only fable here. The growing population of the station, the noise of the railway and such other factors are enough to send away any panther intending to make an abode for himself in the Matheran jungle. News is sometimes brought by the Thakurs or Katkaris having killed a tiger. story of a pedestrian having been suddenly held up by a merciless tiger or having had a sight of a passing tiger has never yet been heard.

Monkeys: But the deficiency in wild beasts is more than made up by the enormous number of monkeys here. They are a very common sight, leaping from tree to tree or climbing the housetops. They are a rest-less race with bulky bodies and black faces, though some have a red or a whitish tinge in the colour of their faces. It is a ery funny spectacle to see their females clutching their little ones close under their bellies and jumping, or their "Baba Lok" engaged in a hot quarrel. They never

molest the passers by, though in some of them familiarity with mankind generates such an effrontry that they enter the houses and lay their hands on any thing they choose under the very nose of the occupants.

(9) PRODUCTS.

None can expect fields of rice or other corn on the steep sides of a hill like Matheran. Man, however, always tries to have his own way even in the face of the most adverse circumstances. And so we find the Matheran people growing cabbage and other vegetables near the Charlotte Lake. These vegetables are extremely tasty, but they are too scanty in proportion to the demand.

Though there is copious jungle here we cannot obtain any wood which would serve building purposes. The Forest Department, however, fells old and useless trees and runs a depot where fuel is stored and sold.

Black-berries—called Jambhuls in Marathi are abundant here. They are deep black in colour and very sweet in taste, though they are much smaller in size compared to what we find in other places like Poona or Satara.

Matheran's honey has a reputation of its own. It is found in three or four different varities. The rustic people are proficient in the art of capturing the honeycombs from even the most dangerous precipices, and they sell the honey and try to

supplement their humble income. We can have from them a bottle containing about a pound and a half of honey for a rupee or a rupee and a quarter. If we purchase a whole tinful we can have it considerably cheaper.

The herdsmen who live round about the hill supply the station with milk and butter. The latter is sold in the Bazar every Sunday at about a rupee per pound.

Besides these, Mangoes also are obtainable during the season and also jack fruit and smaller Black-berries-known as karvand in the vernacular—Pândhri sticks, charming varieties of little grass leaves and flowers which might be used for decoration and leaves of wild plantain trees-called Chaveni trees.

(10) CATTLE.

It is not very easy to maintain a of horses or cattle at Matheran. The scarcity of fodder, want of space and the dearth of water are considerable handicaps. Only those people i.e. the Malis-who can afford to go out and bring some grass or hay keep some cattle. They use the cows towards supplying milk to the station. and the oxen for carrying water and ply the horses for All these three are in hire. requisition only during the eight months of the two seasons and during the monsoon they are not an asset. Hence, they are generally sold away by the owners in June. And since they can be had cheap then, many prospective buyers come from distant places to make a bid for them. Some Malia are prudent enough not to sell their cattle but to use them for farming or send them to some suitable villages. It is compulsory here to put the hiring horses in the Municipal stables.

(11) INDUSTRIES.

Industries are conspicuous by their absence here. And that is but natural, as Matheran never aspires to be an industrious city. Its importance lies in its quietude and it should rather shun than covet any industries or manufactures that would but strike a jarring note against the music of its stillness

Yet, this does not mean that Matheran is a place of idlers who would refuse to put their hands even to ordinary occupations. Like migrating birds many "Mochis" come here from Satara district and ply their trade during the season. They make good boots and it is regarded fashionable to purchase at least one pair at the hill station. Good cane-work also is turned out here. There are two or three washermen. Two photographers are ever willing to expose you before their cameras. A flour mill also has been recently started.

(12) THE BAZAR.

The market building is the centre of the Bazar, all the shops lying either in the building or round about. The Market is owned by the Municipality and its blocks are let on hire, the bigger blocks costing Rs. 100 and the smaller ones which

are rented on Sundays at the time of the Bazar. There are five or six grocers who deal almost in every kind of provision and run their shops all the year round. Four or five stationers ply their trade during the season. There are four tailoring shops, one being conducted specially for ladies by a Jewish lady. There are three refreshment shops in the Market and two outside where they also sell various kinds of Indian sweets. In the market there are four or five stalls where good vegetables and fruits are always available. A separate space is given to the Mutton market.

Sunday is the bazar day here when traders from Chowk, Panvel, and other places flock with loads of vegetables, watermelons and other fruits. People from Neral and other places in the Karjat Taluka bring corn and cloth and green grocery also. Goods of trade come here by Railway, some being brought on horse back or by coolies. There is no Municipal Toll Station here and hence we can only roughly calculate the extent of goods traffic. particulary rice comes to about 10 thousand monds a year.

(13) COST OF LIVING.

The recent war has considerably sent up the cost of living everywhere and Matheran need not be expected to be any exception to the rule. Rather it is but natural that, being a haunt of luxury-seeking sons of the Godess of wealth, it has of late grown into a bit costly summer

- resort. Even an innkeeper, and a trader of Matheran has nowadays only a woeful tale to tell and he is frequently heard cursing these new days when visitors seem to be at a discount. Every Hotel has at present accomodation than is demanded. more Those who ply their trade at Matheran and cater to the comforts of the visitors have to sit quiet with folded hands during the monsoon, consequently they have to realise their due profits during the two seasons. Besides, whoever visits a hill station is in a mood to spend and scarcely discusses the rates. This psychological fact is one among the many causes of the present high cost of living. We mean to briefly consider the prices of some principal commodities before closing this chapter.
- 1. Rice: A decent quality of rice can be had at Rs. 12 per mond. Good table rice or Delhi rice will, however, cost more than Rs. 15 per mond.
- 2. Water: It is not possible to engage our own servants to do frequent trips to the Tank and store the necessary water supply. The services of the water carrier are indispensible. The usual rate of water is a rupee for 2 or 3 Pakhals. If you engage the water carrier for the whole season you may get four Pakhals for a rupee.
- 3. Green Grocery and fruits: Most of the vegetables and fruits come from Poona side and the ultimate cost at Matheran has to be inclusive of the Railway charges and the cooliehire. It is therefore sold at double,

sometimes even trible the Poona prices. The only consolation is that you can get any variety of it.

- 4. Milk: The permanent citizens of the station get milk at five annas a sheer. Visitors, however, have to pay 8 annas for a sheer.
- 5. Fuel: The Government Depot sells at present fuel at 14 annas per mond; and coal also can be had in the bazar at rupee and a half per mond.

In general the cost of every article here is higher by a quarter than its normal price in the cities.

- 6. Railway: Being a Hillstation Railway, the Matheran Light Railway charges 33 pies per mile for the Lower Class. It is only on sundays that a train runs from Neral to here which takes you up only for a rupee and a quarter.
- 7. Rent: To procure a house on rent here is as difficult a job as perhaps more than procuring a place in Heaven. During April and May every imaginable inch of space is occupied. A small little bungalow costs upwards of Rs. 500 in rent, and if you desire to procure a spacious bungalow you must be prepared to take a four figured sum out of your pocket as rent. For a single person it is advisable to put up in some Hotel. We give below a rough estimate of a week's trip from Bombay to Matheran from the viewpoint of the first class traveller.

1.	Railway fare from				
	Bombay to Matheran	.Rs.	15		
2.	Hotel charges	••••	5 0		
3.	Horse or rickshaw hire (daily)	••••	5	to	6
4.	Coolie hire and tips	••••	10		
5 .	Railway fare from				

Matheran to Bombay. 15

This comes to about Rs. 150 and can give an idea of the expenses for a whole family if they wish to spend the whole season here.

i

AS IT WOULD BE TOMORROW.

In order to Make Matheran more popular and in order also to add to the comforts and the conveniences of the visitors to the hill, various efforts to improve the hill station are being made by the superintendent of Matheran, Lt. Col. B. B. Paymaster. I. M. S. Some of the suggestions, made by the consulting surveyor to the Government of Bombay, are also being, carried out by him. The following are some of the important improvements under contemplation.

(1) New water scheme: (piped water supply) See page. 38.

New well digging (See page 38).

- (2) Telephone—Government have resolved to open telephone connection between Bombay and Matheran, at the request of the municipality and the work was to be completed during the year 1922-23. Action is being taken in the matter.
- 3 The Band Stand—It is understood that a nice looking band-stand is being erected in the Rugby Park. It will be the gift of a Parsi gentleman, a lease—holder of Matheran. It will add to the amenities of the place and will prove useful to the public to sit in at all times when a band is not actually playing therein.

It also appears that the Superintendent is arranging to raise a permanent Band Fund from the annual interest of which music will be provided for during every season. This will be a great step in the right direction for who does not appreciate the charms of music? As is well known the Band arranged for by the Superintendent last year and paid for from public subscriptions was a great success and much appreciated by all. For this year also a fine Music Band has been playing in various places and proving very attractive.

- 4 The New Park-The consulting surveyor to Government having strongly suggested the preparation of at least two. Parks, one park on Rugby plateau has been taken in hand and will soon be ready.
- (5) Electric lighting—The consideration of the scheme is postponed on the score of heavy expenditure, yet it is a possibility not very far.
- (6) With the kind help and exertion of the Superintendent of Matheran, a cosmopolitan Gymkhana has recently been started. There were already the European and the Parsee Gymkhanas at Matheran, but there was no facility of this kind for the Hindu and Mohamedan visitors. This cosmopolitan Gymkhana has now removed a great want of these two communities, though temporarily.
- (7) Removal of Mochiwada—The mochiwada which is at present situated very

near the railway station, is being removed from its present site, as it presents an ugly appearance to the visitor just entering the pretty hill station.

- (8) Direction posts—The superintendent has now placed big sign posts on important road junctions with names of points, hotels and places of interest marked on them, in order properly to guide the visitors, who are unfamiliar with the roads and places at Matheran. These have proved very useful for visitors wandering about without any guides.
- (9) New stone seats—The old wooden benches are at times, spoiled and broken or removed by some mischievous visitors, and therefore in order to avoid this, large and beautiful stone seats have been constructed at some of the points and road sides on the hill. Some beautiful shady spots are also being prepared for picnic parties.
- (10) Fuel-The fuel required at Matheran is so expensive as it has to bebrought from the jungles on the heads of labourers. In order to reduce these rates efforts are being made by the superintendent to obtain the necessary permission to carry fuel in bullock carts on the hill.
- (11) Milk-For the supply of good pure milk there was a dairy started on the hill last year. But it did not work well owing to the peculiarly short season. And the idea has been dropped for the present.

(12) Two seated rickshaw—The rickshaws on the hill at present carry one passenger only at a time. Two seated rickshaws have now been introduced.

Big rubber tyred rickshaws and gigs of the type to be found at Aboo Mount, Delhi, Calcutta and in England to be drawn either by horses or men are brought on the hill by Mr. E. K. Khan, one of the Municipal councillors, on the hill station. Efforts are being made to obtain the permission to ply them between Neral and Matheran.

VII.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Matheran is neither an extensive station nor does it at present enjoy the privilege of a summerseat for Government. Days were, when Matheran could pride herself on an annual visit of the Governor. In a previous chapter we have passingly referred to Lord Elphinstone's preference for Matheran. With that preference the charms of Mahabaleshwar had waned into insignificance. Society then used to flock here in great numbers, and the revelries of this Hill-station knew no bounds. This, however, did not last long and now the Government seem to have fled away from The charms arising here never to return. out of the Government visit were after all extraneous and accidental, and at their loss Matheran need not feel any the poorer. She can stand on her own merits. the hundreds of people who rush up to her shade for a refuge from the heated plains, she has countless benefits to offer, what with her salubrious air, its glorious points and its numerous places of interest. must be remembered that when we mount. up to Matheran with a view to escape from the horrors of a sun-baked city like Bombay which gets literally uninhabitable in summer time, our very psychology undergoes a vast change. Our mental attitude takes a new turn. The very focus of our interest gets shifted. What may be called the spirit of the traveller comes on us, and common-place objects like a market building or a tiny tower, or a small piece of open ground bordered with trees which in the city, we might pass with disdain create absorbing interest in us. For a traveller who has this spirit in him Matheran is studded with interesting places, and it is of them that we propose to speak in this chapter.

1. BAI RATANBAI KAPADIA MARKET.

This was built by Mr. Pestonji Naoroji Kapadia, a rich Parsi business man of Bombay, in memory of his beloved wife Ratanbai who died at Matheran on the 29th of April in 1917. It stands in the same place which was formerly used by the tradesmen to set up their temporary shops, enabling them now to erect decent stalls without fear of Sun or wind. Sunday has always been a big market day for Matheran when wholesale and retail dealers come from far and near and the whole place is busy buying corn, cereals vegetables and what not, and the noise and the bustle breaks the monotonous quiet of six days! Bai Ratanbai Market now acts as nucleus for the big weekly fair. It is quite an imposing building and accommodates several permanent stalls. It yields about three thousand rupees in rent every year to the Municipality to whom it has been handed over by Kapadia. The building -cost is nearly half a lac of rupees. It has been insured. The

main entrance to the Market lies through an impressive stone arch on which is prominently placed a beautiful statue of Bai Ratanbai. There is also the following short inscription:—

"This Market was constructed out of The funds provided by Pestonji Naoroji Kapadia Esq. handed to the Municipality as a memorial to his Wife—Bai Ratanbai Pestonji Kapadia—who died at Matheran on April 29 th 1917."

Ratanbai's grave is found in the Parsi Resting Place which is situated on the road leading from Rambag to Chowk Point. There is a nice little garden there and a lamp keeps ever burning in memory of the lamp of life which was extinguished by the cruel hand of Fate in 1917.

2. KARSANDAS MOOLJI LIBRARY

The whole cost of this building was contributed by Mr. Damodar Govardhandas who also shared the major portion of the expenses of furniture, cupboards and books. The Library is managed by the Trustees, the direct management being entrusted to the Superintendent of Matheran. The issuing of the books, the realisation of subscriptions and all such work is done by a Librarian specially engaged for the purpose. Most of the standard Magazines and journals are kept on the table and the collection of books also is decent amounting to the more than two thousand.

The following dedication is inscribed on the wall of the Library which faces the North.

"THE KARSANDAS MOOLJI LIBRARY:—
founded in revered memory of his warm
and undaunted advocacy, of his noble zeal
and self-sacrifice for the advancement of
the cause of Hindu Social Reform, by his
friend and admirer Damodar Govardandas.
May 1897."

We give below the present rates of subscription for the Library:—

FAMILY SUBSCRIPTION.

Annual.	10-0-0
February to June.	7-0-0
October to February	5-0-0
Monthly	3-0-0

SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION.

Monthly	1-8-0
Fortnightiy	1-0-0

Persons paying Rs. 300 become Patrons and those who pay Rs. 150 are considered Life-members of the Library.

(3) BYRAMJEE JEEJEEBHOY HOSPITAL.

It was in 1856 that a small dispensary was opened at Matheran. It remained in the same proportions till 1897, and this unprogressive condition of the dispensary moved Mr. Rustumjee Byramjee Jeejeebhoy to approach the superintendent with the offer of a donation which would cover all the expenses of an Hospital building. So the building was planed and constructed at a cost of Rs. 13100 including furniture and apparatus. There are two wards, one for males and the other for females, and an oilpainting of Mr. Byramjee Jeejeebhoy is hung in one of them. As you enter the Hospital two white tablets bearing scriptions, one in Marathi and one English meet your eyes. The English tablet bears the following:-

"BYRAMJI JEEJEFBHOY HOSPITAL, MATHERAN.

This Hospital has been founded for the benefit of the poor of Matheran, and in memory of the late Mr. Byramjee Jeejeebhoy c.s.i. out of whose Trust Settlement of 1872 the sum of Rs. 13100 has been contributed through Rustomji Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Esq. J. P. to build and equip it. Opened on the 3 rd June 1902."

Medicines are dispensed free of any charge to the poor and private prescriptions are also dispensed at a rate fixed by Government. The Examination room and the Dispensing room are located in a

portion of the superintendent's office. The superintendent of Matheran is always a Medical Officer, i.m.s. He personally attends to patients if required by the urgency and gravity of the case. But the routine work is looked after by a Sub-Assistant Surgeon under him. There is also a Nurse who attends to ladies. The Dispensary is open from 7 to 10 in the morning and 3 to 7 in the evening, and renders very efficient and valuable help to the recidents.

(4) CHARLOTTE LAKE.
(See chapter 5 on page. 39)

(5) EUROPEAN GYMKHANA.

This lies to the north of the Hotel, occupying the beautiful site on the Rugby Hill. It has got an extensive open ground in front with lovely Tennis Badminton courts and some flowering adorn. The small Pavilion to stands in the centre where a servant is ever ready to enroll members and receive fees, and crinks are served in summer. There is a "Calling Board" which was, by the way, introduced by Major J. P. Barry when he was here as superintendent. The Board is divided into two portions— "calls paid" and "calls returned."

The Gymkhana is exclusively ment for Europeans. For the purposes of the Tournaments, however, which generally come off in May, admission is open to all. Prizes of Rs. 50, 25, 15 and 10 and silver cup given

by Sir Adamji Peerbhai constitute the trophies, besides some prizes for ladies. The Tournaments are advertised and their results published in the Times of India. The Management of the Gymkhana rests with a Committee and is directly carried out by the Superintendent of Matheran. The Gymkhana also provides games for the Members' children. The present subscriptions of the Gymkhana are fixed as follows:—

Period	Double	Single
October to June	Rs-40	Rs-30
January to June	,, 30	" 25
Monthly	,, 20	,, 15
Weekly	,, 12	,, 7-8-0

(6) PARSEE GYMKHANA.

This is situated at the end of Mary Lane to the left of Neral Road. There are Tennis Courts and Badminton Courts and also Billiard and Ping-pong tables. The Pavilion was built out of the generous donation of Mr. J. A. Sett, and so bears the following inscription.

"THE JOLDHOY ARDESHIR SETT PARSEE GYMKANA.

This Gymkhana Pavilion and other buildings and courts have been erected to perpetuate the name and memory of the late Mr. Jolbhoy Ardeshir Sett out of the donation of 27 thousand and 5 hundred rupees made by him for the purpose. May 1912."

(7) CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUND.

Three roads coming from the B.J. Hospital, the Chowk Pcint and the Charlotte Lake meet in a triangular space, and it is just here that you will find the Children's Play Ground. Formerly children used to play in the little open space in front of the Rugby Hotel. Realising the need of a separate ground for children Mr. Sorabji L. Panday offered a sumptuous donation for that purpose, proposing also to perpetuate thereby the memory of Mr. Malet. the father of Matheran. The Municipality gratefully acknowledged the donation and prepared the present children's Play Ground in the name of his brother Furdonii L. Panday. The numerous shady trees. with seats built round them, the swings and the See-Saw, the white statue of Mr. Malet towering above everything like a guarding angel, the lovely view of the Lake, and above all the splendid breeze of the salubrious winds of the mountain-all these Ground the make the beloved evening rendezvous of the young and the old alike.



FXTHER OF MATHERAN CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUND.







And it is a sight for the Gods to see the children romping about and riding the swings and flithing from tree to tree in their "hide and seek", in all their innocence and delight. The statue of Mr. Malet stands on a high pedestal just at the entrance and the following inscriptions are found on the foursides.

MR. MALET'S MEMORIAL.

- (1) "In memory of Hugh Point Malet Esq. Bombay Civil Service, Collector of Thana, who discovered this hill of Matheran in May 1850. He came up from Chowk by the narrow steep foot path, near the one tree hill, and returned to Chowk via Rambag".
- (2) "Mr. Malet returned in November 1850, built a small hut in which he lived while clearing foot-paths to points commanding the finest views-In February 1851 he built a dwelling "The Byke" and with the aid of a grant of Rs. 500 from Government opened the road up the hill from Chowk Via Rambag."
- (3) "In 1865 Lord Elphinstone, Governor of Bombay, first visited the hill and devoted himself to useful improvements. He chose the site for "Elphinstone Lodge," built a hut on it and laid the foundation of the present house."
- (4) "This Commemorative cenetoph is erected in January 1923 by Mr. Sorabji Limji Panday J. P. Bombay."

(8) OLYMPIA (RACE GROUND):

As Matheran developed into a favourite haunt of fashionable society the need of a Race Course began to be very keenly felt. In 1891 Mr. Wilkins, the then Superintendent made a survey with a view to select a suitable place and his choice fell upon the

ground to the left of the main road leading to Chowk Point, just opposite the Gulistan Bangalow. He spent his own money in doing the levelling work. In 1892-93 Sir Dhunjibhoy Bomanji came fourth with a donation of more than Rs. 1000. Then surgeon major Barry, in his days, baptised the ground as "Olympia", and started the Olympia improvement Fund which enabled him to make all the necessary improvements.

Through the Station as well as on the narrow roads leading to the different Points one has to ride very cautiously. The Race Ground provides ample space to those who wish to indulge in free and vigorous riding. The circuit of the course is nearly a mile. Lovers of Golf can spend a merry time on the Links which are laid here. Races and Athletic sports are held every year towards the close of May and Prizes are given away.

Once a scheme to have a lake in the centre of the Race Ground was conceived. But it did not materialise. The boring of a well was also once attempted, but that project too had to be abandoned.

Two mysterious caves are said to have been once discovered to the South of this high plateau. One of them is alleged to have possessed an entrance eight feet in height and to have treasured moths and wreckage of bones and bricks in addition to the bottomless darkness. The other is

believed to have existed just beneath the centre of the plateau. A similar cave is suspected to be hidden near about the entrance to the Rambag valley. But all the three caves are to-day like mythological They are not revealed to our objects. modern unbelieving eye. In the front yard of. P. N. Kapadia's bungalow-the Roke-Side-there is a big Slab of stone measuring ten feet in length and five feet in width, and it has been perhaps purposely preserved in its place. The visitor may take it for what it is worth as a lingering evidence of some ancient cave to which it served as a door in its ancient "stone" age.

It is a matter for regret that the Hindus and the Mahomedans should not have Gymkhana at Matheran, when both the Europeans and the Parsis can boast of one. Most of the Hindu visitors are sufficiently wealthy and if they mean they can easily raise an amount required to erect a pavilion and a few tennis and Badminton courts. The fact that a Hindu Gymkhana has not yet come into being, only proves the Hindus' The consultindifference towards games. ing surveyor to Government, in his report, says "There is obvious need for a Gymkhana for the Hindus and the Mahomedans.' He also emphasises the necessity of Public Parks and Tennis Courts and even points certain places on hill that would suit the purpose. Some years back a plot near the Alexander Point was selected for a Hindu Muslim Gymkhana and things had

been pushed even as far as the collection of not a few donations. But the whole affair seems to have brizzled out, Heaven knows why!

See page 58 Cosmopolitan Gymkana.

(9) THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

This stands opposite the B. J. Hospital. When Matheran sprang into prominence and every rich man felt as if he must have a dwelling here, masons, carpenters, petty artisans, and labourers were in great requisition. We do not know how, but most of them were recruited from Goa and belonged to the Catholic religion. These people conceived the idea of having their own church here and started the collection of subscriptions towards that end. Church was eventually completed in 1858. Numerous changes and improvements were made in 1906. The building room enough for hundred men for the purposes of service and its interior as well as exterior artistic and imposing. Adjacent to the church there are quarters for the Priest and during the season many other Roman Catholic clergymen also gather here.

(10) ST. PAUL CAUBCH.

This is close by the Rugby Hotel. In 1852 Captain Ponsonby thought of having a Church at Matheran and chose this Site. But six years passed till subscriptions were collected and with the addition of some grant from Government the work of construction was commenced. The building was com-

pleted in 1865 by Bishop Harding. In 1907 Mr. Michael scott of Bombay set the beautiful window panes bearing artistic coloured designs. This Church is under the management of the Bishop of Bombay. The building is spacious and easily accomodates more than ten dozens of peple at the Service time. There are some graves in the yard, the oldest of them being that of captain Walker's Son who was the first European to die here.

(11) SHIWAJI LADDER.

Chowk was the ancestral place of Netaji Palkar, one of the ablest lieutenants of Shiwaji. In those days it was an important administrative centre, and there is reason to believe, considering that it lies South of Matheran just at its foot, that the present foot-path which leads from Chowk to the hill-top was used even then. It was this path that was used by Mr. Malet when he first climbed up the hill. And as Shivaji also is believed to have sanctified it by use, it has received the name "Shivaji's ladder."

(For further information see onetree-hill.)

(12) THE MOSQUE.

The Mahomedan Mosque which stands in front of the Market was erected in about 1872. Many alterations and additions to the original structure have been recently made. Adjoining the Mosque lies the Mushafirkhana.

(13) THE TEMPLE OF RAMA.

This temple, situated on a fine site? close to the Railway station and the Bazar, was built in 1896 mainly through the indefatigable exertions of Dr. Sadashiv Vaman Dani of Solapur, the then assistant superintendent of the hill. Dr. Dani found the Idol of Hanuman under a tree in the open and first removed this deity to its present site and raised a small temple over He then began work on the Mandir and raised funds for the same from charitably disposed residents and visitors to the hill. He also secured a plot for the purpose from Government. installation ceremony of the three beautiful idels of Rama, Lakshmana and Sita presented by Bai Rattanbai, wife of Tribhuvandas Varjivandas (Madhav Bag) Bombay, was performed by Dr. Dani with great enthusiasm on this hill. Shet Tribhuvandas Vajivandas subsequently built the Sabhamandap and improved the steps to the temple.

The management of the temple rests with the heirs of Late Tribhuvandas and Dr. Dani. There is a priest who is housed at the mandir to attend to the daily worship. Dr. Dani has built a Dharmâlaya in memory of his mother Durgâbâi, close to the temple, where highclass Hindus can find accommodation at a small charge when visiting this hill. The two Hindu festivals of Ramanavami and Gokulashtami are celebrated in this temple yearly with great

pomp and enthusiasm, and many visit this Temple daily owing to its central location.

(14) THE TEMPLE OF SHIVA.

As you go a little ahead of the Municipal office you find this Temple in front of the Clarendon Hotel. The late Mr. Nana Shankershet of Bombay, in commemoration of whose name the coveted Sanskrit scholarship of the Bombay University was instituted, used to spend his summer famous hill-stations like Mahabaleshwar and Matheran; where he had his own residence. Being devoutly disposed towards all religious observances it was his wont to start his daily nature after first having said his prayers in a temple. He therefore thought of building a temple, and thus this Temple of Shiva came into being in Later in 1884 Shet Mangaldas Nathabhai effected some improvements. The enlargements and additions which were made by Shet Jagmohandas Samaldas in 1894 have an interesting story behind them. said that when his wife was seriously and he was staying with her here he made a pious avowal to spend a big amount towards the rapairs and replenishment of the Temple and the installation of some idols of Shankar and Ganpati in the event of his wife's recovery taking place through the benediction the gods. of some time his wife recovered and Shet Jagmohandas, true to his avowed intention. made numerous additions and improvements in the temple, set up three new idols

of Shankar, Parvati and Ganpati, and also built a Dharmashala near the Temple in 1895. We have already, in a previous chapter, spoken of this Dharmashala, as a place where Hindus may find very comfortable lodgings. The two Hindu festivals of ShivaRatri and Gokulashtami are eventful days in the calendar of this Temple, as also the anniversary day when sweets, books &c. are distributed to children, the expenses being borne by Shet Kalyandas son of Jagmohandas

(15) PISARNATH.

This is to be found at a distance of about 150 feet in the thicket that lies southward not far from the Charlotte Lake. The hill tribes have, from ancient times, been regarding this sanctified place with the greatest feeling of devotion; and even to-day the honour of being the premier local sanctuary goes to it. simple minded religious folk of Matheran and round about believe that under pressure of devotion Pisarnath can be invoked into bestowing wordly blessings on the devo-Every-one who was favoured with some blessing has signified the event with a little metal bell hung in front of the God, and thus a curious enormous group of no less than three hundred such bells have grown like a tremendous bee-hive. place cannot be called a Temple in the sense of the term. For there neither a wall of bricks nor even a thatched roof which would lend it the appearance of a closed sanctuary. People believe that Pisarnath would suffer a temple to be built there only if it is erected within the twelve hours of a single night. And thus like the humble rustic people who nevercare for any better home than a shady place under a group of trees, their God Pisarnath too has for ever been content with a wild home in the jungle. And in a way this is as it should be. Why should man attribute to God his own craving for a house of brick and mortar, and pen him up into a cattleshed giving it the dignifiedname of a Temple. And why should God always submit to be thus cabined, cribbed, confined? It is but his prerogative if, once in a way, he revolts against the human tvranny and insists on staying heart of a jungle where Nature itself will offer a glorious worship, countless trees and creepers showering their fresh, fragrant flowers on His head, little innocent birds, and winds and the streamlets singing a chorus in His praise and Venus himself washing his feet in the monsoon. Pisarnath seems to have preferred such a wild abode.

People regard Pisarnath as a Delphic Oracle and try to elicit oracular guidance by offering ears of corn. Those, who gain their desired object through the blessing of Pisarnath offer hens and goats in sacrifice. It is not worthy that even a man like the late Jagannath Shankershet had a firm faith that this place was sanctified with God's living presence. The following little ancedote is significant.

Whenever Nana Shankarshet was staying at Matheran during the hot season he used to pay a daily visit to Pisarnath, particularly with the object of asking to be blessed with a grandson, which had remained unfulfilled even in spite of his visits to some renowned places of pilgrimage. Once it was very probably in 1857, on the occasion of such a visit he met Dr. Birwood and the following description of the meeting is found in Nana Shankarshet's biography.

Dr. Birdwood says that as he was walking toward Danger point through the thickest trees he saw a group of Thakurs gathered before Pisarnath to offer some animal in sacrifice. Presently he saw Nana Shankar-Shet arrived there on horseback with his retiune, and getting down more forward and stand with his face westward, bending his neck and joining his palms in the holy position. The Sun was about to set, and cast his slanting rays on Nana's face who seemed to be lost in meditation. moved in the utterance of some hymn, his face looked grave and shining, and tears were running down his cheecks. that he was fervently asking for some heavenly benediction. Dr. Birdwood thought it prudent to move away lest he might disturb his pious friend in his meditation. He was about to go his own way when Nana approached him. He had peculiar smile on his face and his eyes shown with an extraordinary lustre. Dr.

Birdwood was struck with it and said "Well, Nana, your face betrays you! You look as if you now hope to have your life's desire fulfilled!"

"To be sure" said Nana "it must be fulfilled! Just a moment back Pisarnath whispered in my ears the promise of a grandson!"

Strange as it may seem, Nana really

got a grandson after some ten months.

(16) PARSI RESTING PLACE.

Going by the way that branches forth from the left side of the Children's Play Ground, you come to the Parsi Resting Place after passing Mr. Panday's and Ratan Tata's bungalows. You can also reach it from a path coming from the Alexander Point. The place amply justifies its name, with a lovely garden, a group of tombs each bearing an inscription, a high placed lamp in the centre, a water reservoir, and a little tomb and statue of Ratanbai to whose memory this burial ground is dedicated. The following inscription is found on Ratanbai's tomb:—

"In everloving memory of Ratanbai.

Wife of Pestonji Naoroji Kapadia Born in Bombay: 21-12-1867. Died at Matheran: 29-4-1917."

There is also a Small building nearby which was erected in memory of the Late Cowasji, brother of Merwanji Pestonji Hakamji, and is in charge of some gentlemen of Matheran who act as Trustees.

(17) CASTLE HILL TOWER.

A little walk by the leftside road starting from the Children's Play Ground takes you to the picturesque bunglow of Panday Shet who set apart a munificent gift for the Play Ground. The wall of the bungalow's compound looks like a rampart, being about twenty feet in height. This red wall peepthrough the full green trees easily attracts the attention of the passers by like a red flower unmasking itself through the green foliage of its parent creeper. There is a big open ground in front of the garden is bungalow where a beautiful laid, with some benches and a swing. bungalow is a splendid point in itself, commanding a very striking view of the Lake and the Prabal Hills.

A few paces ahead of this stands " Castle Hill", Sir Dorabji Tata's bungalow. There are only two or three bungalows at Matheran which are decorated with such towers, and "Castle Hill" is the best of them. There is a very extensive semicircular garden around the bungalow, and as you go up you feel like entering a veritable castle. Besides the countless flowering plants there are numerous mango and palm trees. The visitor's delight knows no bounds as he steps from the garden into the verandah, and looks at the artistic design of the bungalow, feels the exquisite masaic floor under his feet and feasts on the beauty of the interior. He is struck at the sight of the black stone of the building as it is very uncommon at Matheran. spiral staircase of black stone leads up to the Tower which is fifty feet in height and the same in circumference. From the top of the Tower we get a grand view that defies description. The thick green jungle in the valley below looks like a dainty carpet on which "the chivalry and the beauty of a venice" might proudly walk. Some bungalows rear up their heads through the trees like Arab ladies pent up in their herems. To the North lies the Petit Tower and the Church glistening with its red roof, to the South lie the Chowk Hotel and the Byramji Jeejeebhoy House, and the Lake also shines like a sheet of shining glass making the view perfect. This bungalow was built by the welknown Sir Dorabji Jamsetji Tata and the huge cost of the building has given it the nick name of the "Three lacs bungalow".

Previous Permission has to be secured by the visitor who desires to visit these two Towers.

(18) TOUR PETIT TOWER.

The Tour Petit bungalow lies adjacent to the English Church by the side of the road leading from the Rugby Hotel to the It is owned by Mrs. Hamabai J. K. Lake. and is conspicuous on account of its Tower. This cannot, however be reached the outside bungalow like Castle Hill Tower. We have to use the staircase in the interior. It is little less in height than the Castle Hill M-F.

Tower; but the higher level of the bunglow sufficiently compensates for this defect and it yields us an equally beautiful view. Being situated near the Church and the Rugby Hotel, it is within easy reach of every one.

VIII

HOW THEY ADMINISTRATE.

1. Matheran Hill station Municipality: It was in 1905 that this Municipality came into existence. Till then the management of the hill station was financed by a fund Called the station Fund. Now the Municipality attends to every affair of common weal or woe. The Municipal members are 10 in all, of whom the Superintendent is necessarily one. The residents who pay taxes above Rs. 3 annually from the Constituency, though their representatives are in Bombay more than here. The Superintendent is the President of the Municipality and he is appointed by Government. He is selected from the Indian Medical service and is either a Col. or a Major. officiates as the Magistrate of the station. and acts as the Civil Surgeon. In fact all kinds of authority are vested in him. stays eight months here and during absence in the monsoons the Assistant Collector of Kolaba probably holds charge. His salary ranges from one to two thousand rupees.

In 1911 the population of Matheran stood at 2757. In 1921 it rose to 3327, though it would easily have gone up to 5000 at the time of the census Coincided with the summer season. Out of the 3327, 1930 are shown in the report as males and 1397 as

females. The following is a classification according to religion: Hindu: 2510 Mahomedan: 417 Christians: 202, jain: 18, Zoroastrian: 162, Jew: 18.

The Matheran Municipality is the richest Municipality, not only in the District but also in, the whole Southern Division. assets and the liabilities of our Municipality:—

Assets: (1) Income of plots of building land sold by auction, (2) House tax, (3) Water tax, (4) Duty on Conveyance, (5) special sanitary rent, (6) Duty on dogs and hawkers, (7) Dhobi Patti &c.

Liabilities: (1) Administration, (2) Lighting, (3) Water, (4) Roads, (5) Sanitation, (6) School &c.

In the year 1922-23 the Receipts amounted to Rs. 51593, the expenditure to Rs. 39773 and the total balance together with the balance for previous years was shown to be Rs. 74577.

The Municipality has chiefly to attend to the roads, running through the station and leading to the different Points, which in all cover a distance of more than 40 miles, the benches placed on the points, the sign-boards guiding the visitors to points and Roads, the drinking water which has to be kept untainted in all its purity, sanitation, health, Dispensary and Hospital. The Major portion of Municipal works here consists of public works and to carry out these works, the knowledge of Engineer-

ing is chiefly required. With this view the present appointment of Municipal Secretary (Mr. H. V. Sovni who is the graduate of Engineering college Poona) is mode. And he has rendered a valuable assistance in the improvements.

- 2. Revenue: The superintendent has his Revenue Office. As the Magistrate of the Place, he has to look after all affairs of revenue and also the Treasury. For these purposes he has two clerks under him.
- 3. Forest: The forest administration began in 1879 when the Indian forest act came into force. There is a Range Forest Officer who looks after the forest administration like cutting the jungle, storing up fuel in the Government Depot. and selling it according to Government rates.
- 4. Police: The Police Department is entrusted to a Sub-Inspector, with ten policemen under him. He has to do every thing needful in the case of thefts, petty riots and all criminal breaches of law and order.
- 5. P. W. D: Matheran falls under the jurisdiction of the Executive Engineer of Thana and one clerk from his office works here. The P. W. D. Office lies at a short distance from the Municipal Office and looks after the Neral Matheran Road, and all the Government buildings.
 - (6) POSTS AND TELEGRAPH.

Matheran got its Post Office in the year 1868. With the all sided advance of

the Hill-station the Post Office also proportionately developed. Now it has a separate building of its own, a little ahead of the Market, just at the point where the road from Neral completes its seventh mile. There is a great pressure of Postal work during the eight months of the season, the number of telegrams registered at the Telegraph Office daily often reaching a hundred and a quarter also. There are daily three deliveries and clearances during the season and the Foreign mails also are delivered and clearded once in a week.

The Scheme of a Telephone line between Bombay and Matheran is ready and it will soon be brouget in force. The Telephone service will come as a veritable boon to Matheran as it will enable businessmen to be in constant and easy communication with their offices in Bombay. There are not a few persons who are able to visit Matheran because they cannot afford to be away from their Bombay firms even at a distance of a couple of hours, journey. To Such persons the Telephone would be a great advantage, and they will gladly then leave the sweltering Bombay for the bracing weather of the Hill. And also those who are at present able to spend only a few days here owing to their business preoccaupations in Bombay will avail themselves of the cool weather of Matheran for a longer period.

(7) THE GULRAJ SINGHANI M. V. SCHOOL.

The School was first opened in 1874 and for some years it was financed from the Hill-Station Fund. Till 1903-4 the number of students was only about 75. But it steadily increased and outgrew the building first erected for the purpose. Realising the School's need of a larger building Shet Puranmal Gulraj Singhani offered a generous donation of ten thousand rupees out of which six thousand were spent in the extension of the School Building and the remaining were utilised towards a charitable ward for infectious diseases To commemorate M. Singhani's gift, the School was named "The Gulraj Singhani School." At present the Scool teaches up to the VII Vernacular standard and has on its rolls more than 225 students. The School is rapidly Growing and the present building is already felt incapable to meet demands. The foremost need of the school is a more extensive building.

SPOTS OF GLORY (POINTS).

The mountain of Matheran consists of three different ranges, the total area being about eight square miles, with a circumference of about eighteen miles. The level of the surface is very uneven and the mountain is made of a reddish rock. other hill-stations Matheran also has spots of glory which in prosaic language are called points. No mountain can be expected to be evenly circular, its outer wall must present a zigzag appearance, the various arms making angles of different degrees as they run into the valleys around. The extremities of these arms are called "Points", because they command some grand and beautiful vista and constitute admirable points of view. Generally narrow vale or an extensive plain spreads itself between two such points, and a free breeze of the wind is obtainable at any of them. This constitutes the indescribable charm of all "points" and visitors to a Hill-station naturally make it the business of their life during their stay to roam about from point to point and to drink deep of the cup of Nature's joys.

Matheran presents about thirty such Points to the visitors Now and then a new point is discovered and cleared or some old point is rearranged. The points receive their names either from their geogra phical position or after some individual of The large number of points named after various Englishmen is an adequate proof of the fondness which the latter have hill station. this Out of the 30 points here, six stand out prominently and special popularity viz. Panorama, and Porcupine to the North and Hart Louisa, Chowk and Garbut to the south. We should not, however, like to limit our narration to this aristocracy of points. the impartial chronicler all points must be equally worthy of description. We shall therefore, take our readers over all points. Imagining that we start from the Post Office and take the southward direction we have the points in the following order. The distance from the preceding point being shown in furlongs below the points:-

Mary, (25) Panorama, (26) Mount barry, 8 81/2 (27) Garbut, (28) Myra, (29) Artist.

(1) KHANDALA POINT.

Being very near the Bazar, at a distance of not more than 50-75 paces from the Library, this point is within the easiest reach of the visitor. A permanent stone bench is placed there. Khandala and the sahyadri ranges lie just in front of this point and give it, Its name. To the left there is a deep Valley and the Garbut point is visible yonder. To the right can be seen the Alexander point and the whole hilly tract up to Little chowk. The best time to enjoy the view of this point is just after the monsoon when the sight of numerous streams of water jumping from rock to rock is avaialable. The Lakshmi Hindu Hotel stands not far off to the left of this point and some benches are placed at the rear of the Hotel where the curious visitor may rest himself and have a look at the same view from a slightly different angle.

(2) ALEXANDRR POINT.

Starting from the post Office and passing the Library we reach after some time a triangular space where three roads meet. Here a signboard guides us and taking the road to the extreme left we reach the Alexander point after traversing a distance of three Quarters of a mile from the post Office. The point

derives its name from captain Alexander, the husband of Mr. Malet's niece. Here too, some stone and iron benches are placed. There is considerable moving space at this point and the wind always blows with a pleasant liberty. Karjat, the Reversing Station and Khandala in front. a range of the Matheran mountains with the Little Chowk Point at the end to the right, and the Khandala and Garbut points to left, constitute the fine view. There is a way leading from this point down Karjat. We can either move on from here to Rambag point or take an alternative turn going round the Tower of Sir Tata's bungalow, children's play ground, B. J. Hospital and Roman Catholic Church. In either case we come back to our original route.

(3) RAMBAG POINT.

This point is named after the dense forest of tall trees known as Rambag over which it looks. There is a clear path by which you can reach down to the foot of the hill into the forest. It was this very path that was used by Mr. Malet when he returned from Matheran. He put it in good order. At a short distance from this point is a spring known as the "Surung" Spring.

(4) LITTLE CHOWK POINT.

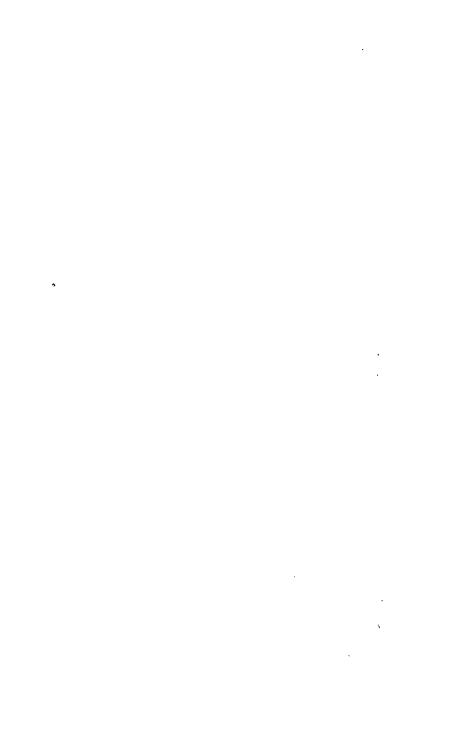
This lies at a mile and a half from the Alexander point, or half a mile Eastward from the Chowk point. The view is made up of Rambag, and the Alexander and Khandala points to the left and the chowk point to the right.

(5) CHOWE POINT.

To reach this point is a walk of about two miles and a half from the Post Office by the main road or about 3 furlongs from the One Tree Hill towards the East. This point constitutes the southernmost extreme of the Matheran mountain and from here to the panorama point it is easily a distance of six miles. The jungle is not very thick at this point. But its bareness is itself an advantage yielding a very extensive view of Karnala panvel in front, Karjat and the palasdari Lake to the left and One Tree Hill and prabal to the right.

(θ) ONE TREE HILL AND SHIVAJI LADDER.

Within two miles by the main road, near the Chowk point, there is a hill which unfailingly attracts attention, being a little detached from the main range and marked by the existence of one solitary tree, from which the hill derives its name. There is no clear cut path leading up to the hill. But a hill top adorned by an unrivalled tree is a tempting spot for venturesome spirits and often we meet with people who vie with each other to reach the top clambering by the narrow risky way. people from chowk come to Matheran by the Shivaji Ladder, and this is, in a way, the main artery of traffic for the rustic villagers who bring their vegetables other ware for the Sunday Bazar Matheran. A splendid view is available from this point with Karnala, panvel and





ONE TREE HILL.

Chowk in front, prabal and Louisa point to the right and chowk point to the left with Karjat at the farthest end.

There is a romantic legend told about the One Tree Hill and Shivaji Ladder which was formerly published in the "Matheran jottings." In the first half of the seven-teenth century when the foundations of the Maratha Empire were being laid the fort of prabal was in Shiwaji's hands and was guarded by a brave and loyal Sardar Just face to face by name Prabalrao. with prabal stood Matheran under the sway of one Ramajirao who was a staunchally of the Mogal and consequently an enemy of Prabalrao. There was a dense forest between the two mountains inhabited by ferocious beasts. It is said that a lion of fabulous strength was amongst them and Ramajirao was supposed to exercise a sort of mysterious influence over There was a little hill aloof from the main range of Matheran where the jungle grew in all its rampant density. There was temple of the God Shiva in the heart of this forest and Ramajirao, being a great devotee of Shiva visited it daily.

With a deadly enemy like Ramajirao for a neighbour, wild beasts in the jungle below and shortage of water supply always staring in the face, prabalrao did not find it a soft job to maintain the prabal fort. He therefore decided to make a last desperate effort to rid himself of Ramajirao and one day started, with one of his

confidents, for Matheran, by one secret path. They reached the temple of Siva, the favourite haunt of Ramajirao and effected a surprise attack in which Ramajirao and his lion were killed, much of the jungle was destroyed and the temple was razed to the ground. On this occasion King Shivaji had come up to help his loyal sardar. The way by which he came is now known as the Shivaji Ladder, the hill where the temple was situated is known as one Tree Hill, and the memory of the lion still lingers on the Louisa point where a place roughly resembles the head of a lion, is pointed out as the "Lions head." (see. Photograph.)

(7) BELLVEDERE POINT.

This is a small minor point which yields a nice view of the prabal Fort and the big valley between Matheran and Prabal.

(8) DANGER POINT.

Starting from the Bellvedere point we can take a short cut to the Danger point by continuously keeping to the western side of this hill. It is near the Charlotte Lake to its south. Some Malis call it the "Janjira" point. The path is very narrow and on one side of it yawns a dizzy deep valley. Being near the Lake this point, in the monsoons, continuously manifests surprising transfer scenes, one moment the mists gathering in a thick mass and making all things invisible and the next mo-





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ment the ocean of the mist getting dried up in a mysteriously short time and discovering every thing again in its proper perspective. When the mists fill up all quarters and look like an all pervading mountain of grey cotton all trace of the Lake or the deep valley is lost and the stranger is sure to mislead himself and run into danger. Hence, perhaps, the name Danger point. There is a lovely shade at this point and the proximity of water makes it ideal for pic-nic.

(9) CELIA.

While the Danger point is to the south of the Lake the Celia point is to the North on a little higher level.

(10) EDWARD VII.

We reach this point about six furlongs to the North of the Charlotte Lake near the Ever Green bungalow. A fine view is available at this point consisting of prabal in front, the steep precipice of the Louisa point to the right, and the dry bed of the Charlotte Lake to the left; and the sea sends its bracing breezes.

(11) ECHO POINT.

This is a close neighbour of the Edward point. The deep valley between this point and the Landscape point remarkably echoes the visitor's voice and hence the name of this point.

(12) LANDSCAPE POINT.

There is a small point a little ahead of the Echo point:

(13) HONEY-MOON POINT.

There was an idea since as back as 1914 to have a point which would combine solitude and the pleasantry of Nature and make an ideal spot for a newly wedded couple to spend their honey-moon. But it remained only an idea till 1924, when, however, Mr. S. L. panday offered the necessary money and a point was discovered and cleared. What other name should it bear if not the Honey-moon? And is it not a glad news that the Honey-moon point will soon have a "Kissing Gate".

(14) LOUISA POINT.

This is the southernmost extremity of the Westward range of Matheran and is at a distance of within two miles from the post office. It is one of the oldest points, having been prepared by Mr. Edward Fawcett in 1853 out of his own expense. This was the first point to receive an English The way to the point lies through a continuous thick shade, but the point itself is largely bareheaded. There is an extensive plateau on the point-larger than any available at other points—and two little hillocks show themselves prominently, one of which is known as the Lion's Head, as we have already said in our narration of the Shiwaji Ladder legend. To the left of the point we see the deep valley filled with the bluish bright air peculiar to all vales, and characterised by dots of humble cottages of the Thakurs from where thin columns of

smoke rise up and disappear. The Honey-, moon and the Echo points also lie to the left. The Scene on the West is made up of prabal, a part of the Thana District, the Gharapuri caves and also a glimpse of The little boats resting in the bays of Bombay are visible even to the naked eye, and if you take the assistance of modern Science and look through a binocular a wonderful view is revealed to your eyes. The sight of the setting sun and of the Bombay lights twinkling like little stars is simply glorious and he who misses misses an exquisite scene in which Nature and human Art combine their glories.

(15) MALANG POINT.

This is a meek little Point and keeps company to the Louisa like a humble and faithful watchman.

(16) CORONATION POINT.

This lies between the Louisa and the Porcupine, within a mile's distance from the post Office. It was discovered and cleared in 1903 to commemorate the event of His Majesty Edward VII's coronation and was named accordingly. This commands a good view of the valleys at the foot of Prabal. Being thickly covered with trees the spot is a suitable place for a pic-nic except that the visitor must equip himself with a sufficient water supply before starting for the point.

(17) RUSTUMJER POINT.

This point is situated between the Coronation and the porcupine and was prepared in 1922 being named after the late Rustumjee Shet, who made a gift for Hospital.

(18) PORCUPINE POINT.

This point forms the farthest extreme of the Western range of Matheran. If we start from the Rugby Hotel and take the way to the Malet pring we arrive at a triangular meeting point of roads where a Sign-board advises to take the road to the left, which takes us to the porcupine point at the end of Six furlongs. Its distance from the post office might be 14 furlongs. Sir Richard Temple, when he was the Governor of Bombay, was staying at Matheran instead of Mahabaleshwar during famine days. This point bears its name to perpetuate the memory of Sir Richard's visit. Porcupine is a very hard name for the villagers of the place to pronounce and they have corrected into "Palkhi point." centre place This is a of bustle and crowd when a big fare is held annually along with the one held at Baba Malangad on the fullmoon day of the . Hindu month of Magh (which roughly coincides with the month of February). It is in connection with this fare that some poet has sung.

"Thy grassy brow and spine oh Porcupine! Almighty's hand and Nuture's art combine. Before thee stands Baba Malaug Where men and women yearly throng."

This point rears up its head over two deep valleys, one on each side, and with Baba Malangad in front, the Monkey and Hart points to the right and the Gharapuri caves and Bombay to-wards the West commands an ideal view. The valleys, the distant sea with ships looking like white skinned little birds, and the disc of the setting sun giving a tinge of gold make a perfect picture sufficient to tempt an artist's brush.

(19) OUR (MALET) POINT.

Standing between the Porcupine point and the Malet Spring this point yields a very charming view of the Maldung valley. Though the point properly received the name of Malet in 1894 at the hands of col. Haigin, it is commanly known as "Our point" perhaps owing to the absence of a sign-board on the spot.

(20) PEB, (21) MALDUNG.

Going from the Malet Spring towards the Hart point we get these in order. Dr. Barry made the latter and gave it the present name.

(22) MONKEY POINT.

Passing the Rugby Hotel and the Artist point we reach a parting of the ways after a little while. Taking the road

to the left here, walking up to the "Elphinstone Lodge" and passing the "Red Land" we again come to a bifureation of ways, keeping to the left side again we go down to the Monkey point. The visitor need not be perturbed with the prospect of landing in the midst of monkeys. There are none though the point's name reminds one of those distant ancestors of man. The Hart point lies to the right. It is an enjoyable fun to stand on this point and see the Matheran Light Railway creeping up like a snail round the panorama Hill.

(23) HART POINT.

This lies at about four furlongs from the Monkey point and forms the Northernmost extremity of the major middle range of Matheran. To its left lie the Monkey and the Porcupine points and to the right the Simpson Tank and the Panorama point.

(24) MARY POINT.

This is a minor point ahead of the Hart. But the thick shade of green trees which it provides is remarkable and attracts all who love to spend a solitary time in a cool spot where the sun hardly intrudes and the music of birds goes merrily.

(25) panorama point.

This is surely the king of Matheran points, affording the most excellent panoramic view befitting its name. The villagers call it "Pandurang point," a very curious corruption of the real name. A trip to this point is a clear three miles'

walk from the post office, but it may conveniently include the Simpson Tank while going and the Barry mount on our way The point is situated at of the hill and with its thick grove of trees forms an admirable spot for a pic-nic. It was here that on the 1st May 1913 Sir Adamji Peerbhoy gave his memorable pic-nic party in honour Mr. W. D. Sheppard, the commissioner for the Southern Division. A special train had run that day between Matheran and Panorama point. To the North-East this point can be seen peb and further on Malangad, Nakind, Mharmal and Navara-Navari (i. e. the "wedded couple") which last is the name of a hill from where a whole wedding party going from Badlapur to Panvel is alleged to have once mysteriously disappeared. The Hart, Monkey and Porcupine points and Prabal lie to the South of this point. And prabal, Karanja and to its North Kalyan, Kurla, Parsik and whole tract of land and water upto Bombay shows itself on the Western side. view from this point is therefore simply exquisite, and particularly at night-fall the last glimpse of the sinking sun and the twinkling lights of Bombay make delightful picture from which the eyes refuse to retire. From the height of this point the little village of Neral looks like a small garden with the fountain of the Lake in the centre. In the monsoons mighty currents of suddy water roar down

the mountain and in their fall look like unending pieces of chocolate coloured silk being thrown down the valley. In October the hues are all different, Nature changes its red garments for greenish-yellow ones. Down in the valley the yellow fields look like small carpets neatly spread interspersed with silvery straps of the lingering In winter all this disappears, the whole valley gets flooded with the milky must, and Nature clads herself in spotless The Panorama point is thus white muslin. a perennial source of fresh delights in the various seasons. The Matheran Railway touches the Panorama Hill at numerous points, and a visitor standing on the point and looking at the tiny Railway steaming and negotiating the different turns laboriously, is so puzzled that he can definitely tell whether the train is going up or down!

(26) MOUNT BARRY.

We come across this point on our way from the Panorama to the Toll station. It is named after Capt. Barry who was for some time Superintendent here.

(27) GARBUT POINT.

This point forms the other extremity of the same Eastern mountain range at one end of which stands the Panorama point, and is at a distance of three miles from the Post Office. Though this side of the range in general is more thickly shaded-particularly by the Hirda trees—than the

Panorama side, the point itself is bare and the visitor feels much uncomfortable owing to the sun's heat. The municipality has realised this defect and is trying to remedy the error of Nature by growing fresh trees on the spot and erecting raised platforms of stone where the visitors may rest. There is a little spring close by which dries up after February. Just beneath this spring is a collection of small huts, the abodes of the Thakurs and the herdsmen, who supply the Hill station with the necessary milk. From the point we can see the Bombay Poona trains upto Khandala with two or three interruptions at the Bhivpuri Karjat Stations which are hidden from the view by clusters of trees or intruding hills. Also the railway line of the Tatas from the Bhivpuri Road to the Bhivpuri Electric power house is visible, and a glance to the West shows the Myra point, Lakshmi Hindu Hotel, and Khandala, Alexander and Little chowk points in order.

(28) MYRA POINT.

Near the Rasul Villa on the main Neral Road another path branches forth and crossing the Railway line leads to the Parrison Spring and at last to the Myra point. The point is thus about a mile off from the Post Office. The view at this point consists of the Garbut point in front, the khandala point to the right and a yawning valley to the left.

104

(29) ARTIST POINT.

This is the only point which has preferred for its abode a spot on the thorough fare rather than a precipice or the extremity of a range. It lies between the Rugby Hotel and the European Gymkhana, on the main road. It may not be a daring point like others but its thick shade of trees makes it a lovely spot and forms the most favourite rendezvous of Matheran people. Its name also, like that of the Porcupine and the Panorama, has undergone a corruption at the hands of the illiterate citizens, being called the "Adatis" point.

A FIVE DAYS' DIARY

TABLE OF DISTANCES

No one comes to Matheran to shut himself within the four walls of a house. The poet may tell us "stone walls do not a prison make '! But they do at Matheran, you made to stay inside the house for the whole length of the day, you will feel more miserable than a prisoner. Roaming or riding forms the chief business at Matheran. The rich people ride a horse a Rickshaw. The humbler folk use their God given pair of feet. But every body moves out and considers it as his main occupation. For the guidance of visitors, who desire to do the maximum sight seeing in a short stay we should like to offer a five days' Diary. It does not, of course, claim any finality. visitor should alter and adjust it to his individual convenience, leisure, and length of stav.

Ist Day: The first half of the day may be used in a trip round the Garbut point, which would mean a walk of six miles. During the latter half it would be a good plan to visit the Simpson tank, take a turn round the Panorama point, reach the Barry Mount and return by the Toll station side.

2nd Day: It would be wise to spend the first half of the day by making a start from the Rugby Hotel and visiting the Malet Spring. point and the porcupine point return home by the other side. having thus done about four or five miles. The latter half of the day may well be utilised in a trip from the Walker's Tank, including the Coronation, Malang, and Louisa points, and after running at a tangent to the Honey moon point, and Pinto Hotel, culminating at the Library.

crd Day: It is advisable to devote the first half of the day to the Khandala, Alexander points, the Parsi Resting place, Rambag and Little Chowk and return home by the way which crosses the Olympia. The best programme for the latter half of the day is to visit the Chowk and One tree hill and either on our way or when returning take the Victoria Road and visit the Roke side to have a look at the remnants of the old cave of which we have spoken elsewhere.

4th Day: Children's play Ground, charlotee Lake, Pisarnath, Danger, Echo, Landscape and Honey moon points will make a suitable round for the first half of the day; and the Artist point, the Gymkhana, and the Monkey and Hart points may well be put on the card forthe afternoon.

5thDay: Those who have the enthusiasm and the energy for it, should spend the whole day in a trip to Prabal. There are two ways leading to Prabal. One starts from Louisa point and is a short cut, being, like all the short cuts, a bit difficult. The other runs across the One tree hill, and being an easy going road takes more time. The best plan is to take the Louisa point path while going and return by the One Tree hill road. Strangers will be doing a wise thing if they take a good guide with them. Prabal is now a deserted place. In the old days it was a strong fortified fort. But like all other forts it has decayed and rusted under the British rule The old fortification still shows itself intact at some places, and also three or four wellbuilt springs can be seen. In the centre of the Fort is a which is known as Kalavati's palace and it is believed that there is secret tunnel under it. Prabal affords a clearer view of the Bombay side than Matheran.

The fort of Peb lies to the South of Baba-Malangad, not far off from the Panorama point. The

visitor should include it in one of his Programmes according to his choice. He can reach it by descending from the Elphinstone spring.

Passangers often feel handicapped by the absence of any milestones on the roads. They find no means to reckon the length of their walk and to determine if they have had sufficient exercise. Making proportionate payment to the hired vehicles is also difficult when they do not know what distance they have traversed. The following Table of distances would, therefore, be of great use. The distances are naturally rongh.

1 Chowk point to Post Office 2 Miles. $\mathbf{2}$ Hart point 33 ,, ,, 3 Panorama 51 ,, 4 Panorama to Post Office 31 ,, 5 Garbat Ø Simpson 7 Toll Station 13 ,, 8 Louisa Point Post Office ,, Porcupine ,, 13 10 Porcupine Post Office 11 Garbut 12 Toll Station13 ,, 13 Charlotte Lake Post Office ,, 11 Station ,, 15 Malet spring Post Office 1 ,, Porcupine ,, 17 Toll Station Post Office $\mathbf{2}$,, 18 Hart Point 12 " 19 Simpson 1 " ,, "

20	AlexanderPoin	ιt	${\sf toP}$	ost Off	ice 🖁	,,
21	Myra (Harriso	n	Spi	ing),	, 1	"
22	Rugby Hotel		,,	"	1/2	,,
23	Olympia	,,		,,	11	,,
	Artist Point	,,		,,	$\frac{1}{2}$,,
25	Simpson Tank	,,		,,	13	,,
26	Walker's Tank	,,,		,,	11	15

XI

DIRECTORY OF BANGALOWS.

The government map of Matheran does not show several bungalows and places interest which have newly sprung up. Some bungalows do not bear any names. and the names of some keep changing. Hence we cannot boast that the accompaning map is accurate. But omitting such exceptions our map will help strangers to Locate any place or bungalow at least approximately, if it is used in the way we suggest. The reader can findout any place in this directory by means of the alpha and the figures. Reference should therefore first be made to this directory and the sign against it should then be found out in the Ordinary houses and bungalows which do not bear any name are not shown in our map:-

Place on the Map.	Name of Bungalow	Owner's Name	
13 K	Abdulhussain Lodge	Abdulhussain A. Peer- bhoy	
16 J	Addam Villa	Ebrahim Moledina	
17 J	Agbotwalla bunglaow	Aishabai Haji Ahmed	
19 H	Alladin Lodge	Mcssrs. Haji Maho- med and H. Yossaf	





No.



Place on the Map.	Name of Bungalow Owner's Name			
21 I	Alexander Lodge	Pirojabai M Chando- obhoy		
10 K	Altmount Lodge	P. G. Singhanee		
11 N	Aman Lodge	Abdulhussin A. P.		
22 H	Arnold Lodge	T. D. Hazari		
18 H	Ashok Villa	G. D. Madgaonkar		
24 G	Atkison Villa	Bandallibhoy Hajibhoy		
14 F	Bachpo Villa	D. J. Vakil		
17 I	Bake Villa	J. R. De souza		
20 F	Barr heuse	A. B. Dubash		
14 G	Beehive	E. C. Nangi		
18 1	Bejon & Mary Lodge	Don Mathewes De Oliver and others		
17 G	Bella Vista	B. P. Lule ca		
9 K	Bellview	Haji Alimahamed Ha. Cassum		
26 F	Bellvedere Lodge	M, N. Disann		
22 H	Benedict Lodge	Banubai f. Kammisari- atvala		
27 G	Bhavanagar Lodge (wood stock)	Sorabji C. Sett.		

Place on the Map.	Name of Bungalow	Owner's Name
26 G	Bhivandi Lodge	Khanbahadur H. M. Bhivandiwalla
16 F	Bombay view	Ambabal Sarabhai
10 M	Вореер	G. D. Padamgi
12 L	Bora sauitarium	
18 G	Bund side	B F. Commisariatvalla
21 I	Byke	P. A. Hormarji
23 F	Byramjee house	R. B. Jeejeebhoy
14 D	Cairanmore	Manekji P. Jeejeebhoy
17 I	Kallian cottage	Kalian Harjiwan
15 G	Cambridge	Noormahomed Beg- mahomed
19 H	Caprera	S. A. Nathan
23 H	Castle hill	Sir D. J. Tata
11 0	Chalet	Karimbhoy A. Peerbhoy
21 H	Childrern's playground	•••
18 I	Chinoy Villa	J. P. Japanwalla
25 H	Chowk hall	Mesars, H. B., & B. Tyabju
21 H	Clarendon Hotel Clarendon Villa	C. J. De souza

Place on the Map.	I Nama of Hungalous I (lemonta Nama		
9 K	Cragee burn	Ratanbai f. Vakil Jaherbai H. Mody	
23 F	Cutho Castle	H. H. Pir Saheb of Bagdad	
14 F	Dayam Lodge	A. A. Peerbhoy	
13 Ј	Dayanand Kuti	Laxmibai Liladhar	
20 H	Dell	R. E. Chatriwalla	
14 F	Dhan Villa	B. A. Wadia	
14 F	Dilkhush	H. F. Tarapore walla	
14 E.	Dalshidoma	H. M. Kajiji	
24 G	Ebrahim Lodge	Ladhabhoy Ebrahim	
1 4 I	Eden hall	B. S. Chinoy	
11 1	Elphinstone Lodge	G. B. Greaves	
14 H.	European Gymkhana	•••	
18 E.	Evergreen	Nanu N. Bharucha and Meherbai	
15 C	Ewart Lodge	K. J. Sett.	
12 J	Fern wood	F. A. Vakil	
24 H	Flarance Lodge	Sir Currimbhoy ebrahim	
2 9 G	Fleet wood	Bart. F. N. Furdunji	
м—п			

Place on the Map.		
22 F	Fountain Lodge	Kikabhoy & Maneklal Premchnd
19 F	Forest Lodge	S. A. Shah
12 0	Garbut hall	Sir A. Peerbhoy
18 1	Garbut view	S. L. Panday
19 1	Gomes bakery	A. J. De souza
12 J	Granville hotel	Joseph De souza
16 F	Green wood	Aimai R. P. Saderwalla
16 I	Gulshan	H. B. Hattikhanawalla
18 1	Gulistan	G. B. Petit
18 F	Hermitage	G. W. Hatch & others
11 L	Hindu sanitarium	
22 I	,, Bhatia sani.	
2 6 F	Home Stead	Sherinbai M. Cama
13 J	Honey comb	J. F. cooper
19 I	Hopehall Hotel	Moneca M. Goeins
10 O	Hussain Lodge	Cassum Mahamod Mitha
19 I	Jacob Villa	A J. De souza
18 H	Jafermanzil	Dostmahamed peermahamed

l ac e no he Ma p.	Name of Bungalow	Owner's Name	
16 F	Geewajee hall	Tarabai Laldas Maganlal	
16 J	Kaitan hall	Gangabai Janardan	
19 E.	Keep Sake	H. M. Pandit	
17 I	Khan Villa	E. K. Khan	
19 1	Kharshed Lodge (Sudder Lodge)	Sherinbai D. Bhivandi- walla	
11 1	Khatiza Lodge	Abdulhussian A. P.	
16 F	Khushroo Lodge	Vitthal Purushottam	
21 H	Kitty Lodge	Bai Jaiji Dhangibhoy Setna	
13 J	Kothari manzil	E. F. Kothari	
13 K	Lucky cottage	Ahmedally Lookmanji	
18 J	Laxmihindu botel	Bulakhidas Dayashan	
15 I	Laxmi Villa	Laxmibai Sundarrao Jaykar	
15 F	Lily	G. M. Damania	
16 J	Mahadeobhuvan	T. M. Potdar & brothers	
13 D	Maldung house	F. A. Vakil	
11 J	Manek Lodge	A. H S. Peerbhoy	
17 G	Maria cottage	P. C. Kavarana	

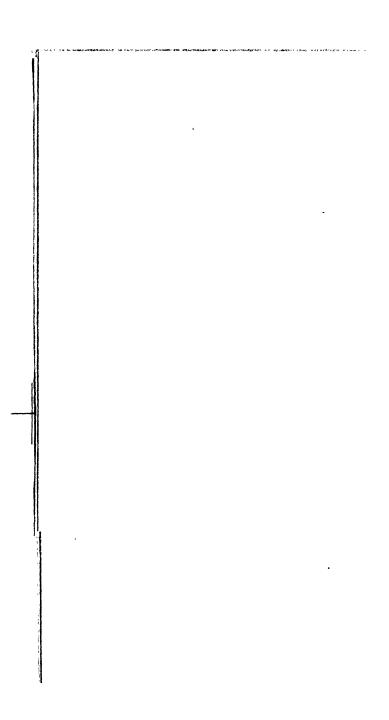
Place on the Map	Name of Bungalow Owner's Name	
19 I	Mary Lodge	Don Mathews De. Oli- ver
16 H	Meher Villa	B. E. Ghaswalla
13 G	Metropole hotel	E. M. Rowji
25 G	Minchor Villa	Chatoorbhoy Shirgi
1 8 I	Mistry Lodge	N. R. Mistry
17 C	Mon reprose	D.B. Dubsash
1 5 I	Motivilla (Krishna Villa)	Hirabai Dwarkadas
17 H	Mount	Superintendent's bun-
14 E	Mount Eric	galow. Sheranbai N. G. Dady
26 G	Mount Esmail	E. K. Khan
24 H	Mount Pabany	Sir Curimbhoy Ebra- him Bart
1 2 D	Mount Pleasure	Navalchand Hirachand
17 J	Nandanvan	N. G. Sharangdhar
20 J	Neral Villa	Н. А. Мајуе
13 I	Neter Villa	Vezer bai E Neterwalla
13 K	Noor Villa	Dattubhoy Jetha
I 61	Nowroji hall	Miss Dinbai N. Lord

Place on the Map.					
27 H	Olympia house	Moosabhoy Jaherbhai			
22 H	Paradise Lodge	P. C. Irani			
13 J	Parsee gmkhana				
25 I	Parsee resting place				
24 Н	Pasta house	G. L. Pasta			
1 8 I	Pinto hotel	Khanbahadur V. P. Bhiladwalla			
14 I	Pinto Lodge	J. A. Wadia			
15 I	Piroza Villa	Mrs. J. A. Irani			
1 0 L	Porbunder Lodge	Divan Porbunder State			
18 G	Prabal house	J. E. Banatwalla			
151	Rahimtulla Villa	Hajimahamed Rahim- tulla			
9 M	Ragestan	Jerbai N. Wadia			
28 H	Raman Villa	Motilal Kanji			
13 K	Rasool Villa	Mahamedally Rasoolji			
12 I	Rattan Villa	A. H. Mountwalla			
15 G	Readymoeny Lodge	Sir C.J. Baronet			
17 H	R. C. Church				
20 H	Red house	J. B. Marzaban			

Place on the Map.	Name of Buugalow	Owner's Name		
10 K	Red Lands	H. C. Dinsha and Bro- thers		
1 9 F	Rest house	P. W. D.		
16 I	Retreat	N.G. Agaskar		
17 F	Robertson's bunglow	Sherinbai M. Dalal		
27 н	Roke side	P. N. Kapadia		
22 H	Rose cottage	S. L. Panday		
14 G	Rose hill	P. M. Marzaban		
17 1	Rozeric cottage	H. H. Agakhan		
17 F	Ruby hall	Nanbhai Talakchand		
15-16Н	Rugby Hotel	B. S. Chinoy		
11 11	Rukhan Villa	Rukhanbai E. Peerbhoy		
17 Н	Saffe Lodge	A. M. Kajiji		
15 F	St. Elmo	S. N. Chinoy		
16 H	St Pt. Church			
20 I	Sand's house	B. S. Petit		
18 I	Savoy hotel	Khanbahadur V.P. Bhiladwalla		
25 F	Scottish orphanage	Bombay S. Society		
16 G	Scott's bungalow	D. B. Vakil		

Place on the May	Name of Bangalow	w Owner's Name	
17 G	Sea view	Sir Sasoon Jacob David	
19 E	Setna cottage	Hamabai Pestonji Setna	
1 3 J	Sett Villa	Cowsji J. Sett	
27 F	Shera cottage	H. E. H. Mahamad	
21 H	Shiv temple		
1 2 I	Spencer Villa	H. S. Spencer	
14 I	Spring wood	Mrs. Manekbai H. Mody	
15 I	Star villa	J. E. Ezara	
17 G	Summer seat	P. F. Cooper	
15 E	Sunder villa	Salemahmed Dharamsy	
19 H	Sunny side	Mahamadbhoy Dattu- bhoy	
17 G	Tour petit	Mrs. Hamabai J. K. Mehta	
13 K	Tyab Lodge	Jayobhoy and Maha- medllibhoy	
19 G	Umarigar Lodge	D. R. Umarigar	
24 G	Underwood Lodge	Sultanbhoy Hajibhoy	
27 H	Vallabhavilla	Mulji Dharamsy	

Place on the Map.	Name of Bungalow	Owner's Name	
11 L	Vavikar Lodge	G. S Vavikar	
13 K	Velkar villa	Pandurang and Wa-	
18 I	Victoria Lodge	J. B. Cooper	
17 G	Villaport	Balkrishna Vasudeo Pandurang	
15 I	Vinayak ashram	Gajanan Vinayakrao	
23 н	Wadia Lodge	Byramjee Nowroji	
20 I	Wallace bungalow	Messrs. Wallace and Co.	
21 F	Westgrange	Yokohama specific Bank	
14 C	West view	S. C. Sett	
18 G	Wilderness	S. N. Gazader	
12 D	Wood Lands	M. M. Battliwalla	
27 G	Wood Stock (Bhav- nagar Lodge)	S. C. Sett	



1 •

WE TAKE OFF OUR HATS TO:-

Hugh	Malet	who	discove	red
		this	hill	

And whom we all remember still.

1.

3.

Sir Adamji Peerbhoy
for all his skill
In bringing the railway

In bringing the railway on the hill

Good Paymaster with his intellect wise

Turning the lovely hill into paradise.

Read this first!

Do note down our name in your diary when you start for Matheran:

We stok all cereals, provisions, dry fruits, Stationary, Perfumery, Glass ware, Crockery, Patent Medicines Ghee, fresh Butter, Grocery etc.

We sell the best and purest Matheran Honey at moderate rates.

S. P. Kothari & Co.

General Merchants and Commission Agents,
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Most centrally situated, commanding excellent views on all sides. Newly built separate blocks on up to date principles, All rooms facing west and open to sea-breezes.

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Messrs. S. Lord & Co. well known photographers are always at service of patrons and visitors.





Breakfast

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Sup

at the

wines, spirits etc.

Rooms by the day or month.

Electric lights. clean
prompt attentive service.

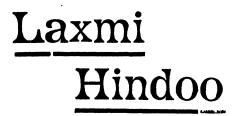
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RESTAUBANT.

Matheran.



Hotel.

OST central situation within easiest reach of the Station. Best food and service. Home comforts and reasonable charges. Health and pleasure. Once Visited always patronized. Special arrangements for families. For further particulars.

Bulakhidap Poyaphanker,

Sole Proprietor

The Baxmi Hindoo Hotel,

Matheran.



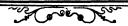


Hotel Metropole Matheran,

OST favourite hotel of Europeans and Parsies, welknown for its cool shady situation, overlooking beautiful views, within easy reach of European and Parsi Gymkhanas, and many other worth visiting Springs and Points. All rooms newly tiled, commodious and airy with baths attached. Food wellcooked, wholesome and upto taste, efficiently served under the personal supervision of the management. A Badminton Court and hotel Library ready in the service of the visitors. Terms quite moderate for Double and Family rooms. For further particulars, please apply manager.



larendon Hotel



MATHERAN

heart of Matheran, opposite Panday Play Ground for children. It is thoroughly renovated and is under the able management of old. Mr. M. C. Lobo. It provides comfortable accommodation, good, clean and wholesome food. Liberaly served and courteous-efficient service at a reasonable terms. Separate blocks for Europeans and Indians. Hotel attendant meets all trains to conduct visitors and attend luggage etc.

Please apply to the manager.

S. F. De Souza.

Proprietor.

<u>HOPE HALL HOTEL,</u>

MATHERAN.

The Pioneer Hotel of Matheran. Oldest in years.....and Modern in Methods. The reason that the Hope Hall Hotel, Matheran is widely recommended by the visitors rightly acknowledged by the public, both for health and pleasure, that it has up to date arrangement efficient management, healthy, central situation and blocks newly built on modern sanitation and

Expert xcellent very home

HEFS uisine omforts

when you need bracing up and infuse new vitalising force in you of invigorating Matheran climate do not forget Hope Hall Hotel.

Terms Strictly Moderate.